

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

OCCURRENCES DURING THE PAST WEEK.

Bequest Is Left to the State—Daniel Lived a Double Life—Car Shops May Go to Tecumseh—Collapse of Ice Houses Near Hamburg.

State Loses a Bequest.
Nelson Holmes of Grattan township in disposing of his property by will, after bequeathing the remainder of his estate to the State of Michigan upon condition that some public educational or charitable institution be erected thereon. The Attorney General filed a bill in the Kent Circuit to obtain a construction of the will, and a decree was entered holding the bequest to the State void. The State appealed, and the Supreme Court has decided that as the State had not complied with the conditions imposed it has no interest in the land.

Leaves Two Widows.
The death of Frank J. Daniels, a pension examiner, who has been located at Reading, Pa., for several years, has brought out the fact that he had two wives and three children by each. His body was brought to Ingham County for burial, and awaiting its arrival were his wife and three children, whom he had been supporting without interruption. It was accompanied by another wife and two children. Each family was ignorant of the existence of the others. The second wife says she showed her what her husband was a divorcee from his first wife. It was a foregone conclusion.

D. & L. N. Car Shops.
At a business men's meeting in Tecumseh the proposition of the Detroit and Lima Northern Railroad was accepted that the village donate \$14,000 and ten acres of land, for which consideration the company agrees to locate its car shops here. Then if the village will raise an additional \$5,000 it may secure the car shops. The shops will employ about 200 hands and the division headquarters will bring in the neighborhood of 150 additional attaches to Tecumseh.

One Fatally Injured.
Brakes on the rear end of an Ann Arbor freight train, which had been cut in two, failed to hold, and the cars slid down a grade at Comstock and collided with a M. & N. E. engine, that was standing on the crossing. The engine and six cars were demolished. Conductor Jones of the freight was probably fatally injured. Engineer Fittell and William Elliott, the engine crew, were badly injured.

Ordered to Cease Business.
Commissioner Campbell has directed the Preferred Mutual Benefit Association, Industrial Benefit Association and American Beneficial Association, all of Detroit, to cease doing business. All were organized under the law for the incorporation of benevolent associations, but have been doing an insurance business, which the law does not authorize.

Killed by a Lamp Explosion.
Mrs. Allen Wood was fatally injured by the explosion of a lamp at Owosso and died two hours later. Mr. Wood arose early to go out of town, and left a lighted lamp on a table in his wife's room. When she arose and started to remove the lamp to another room it exploded. Mrs. Wood was 70 years of age and an old resident.

Ready to Make Money.
The Dowagiac police have discovered a complete outfit for the manufacture of counterfeit cents at the home of Herbert Graham, and Graham has been placed under arrest. Molds, dies and other paraphernalia were found by the officers. Counterfeit money had been in circulation there for some time.

Big Ice Houses Collapse.
The mammoth ice houses in the course of erection at Whitmore lake, near Hamburg, collapsed. Two hundred men were at work on the buildings. Two are known to have been killed, and possibly four. Twelve or more are injured.

Fortune Drops in Her Lap.
Mrs. Katie Ammon of Vandalla township and two minor heirs over whom she has been appointed guardian, have fallen heir to a \$50,000 estate by the death of her aged uncle, Silas A. Trabos, a Jackson, Miss., planter.

State News in Brief.
Metamora is to have an up-to-date hotel.

George R. Mayhew, dealer in boots and shoes at Grand Rapids, has filed chattel mortgages for \$20,000.

The projected railroad from Traverse City to Sutton's Bay is receiving a great deal of encouragement.

The project of building an electric railroad from Battle Creek, through Barry County to Grand Rapids, may be revived.

Mrs. J. C. Horton fell on an icy sidewalk at Williamston and broke one of her hips. She will be a bed-ridden cripple for life.

Henry Walker, who was accidentally shot in the shoulder at Plymouth, was taken with lockjaw shortly afterward and died.

The deadlock in the Board of Education at Gladwin has been broken, and J. W. Howell was appointed superintendent of schools.

George E. Hall of Fairfield shot a rabbit just across the Ohio State line. He was arrested and his fine and costs amounted to \$32.20.

The State Board of Corrections and Charities state that the proposed plans for the new jail in Ottawa County are a model in every respect.

Charles Hartel, a farm hand working near Vienna, fell out of a tree while hunting squirrels. One arm was broken in two places and he was otherwise injured.

The schools at Coloma have been closed on account of an epidemic of measles. The trouble in St. Stanislaus' Polish parish at Bay City seems as far from settlement as ever.

Mrs. Marshall Bills of Fairgrove was accidentally shot through the hand. Her husband held the gun, and, as usual, did not know it was loaded. She will lose most of her hand.

The failure of Sheldon & Beebe, Mendon's grain and feed store, has caused much excitement among the farmers in that vicinity. There were more than 2,000 bushels of wheat stored in the firm's elevator.

PULSE OF PROSPERITY

INCREASE OF RAILROAD EARNINGS BREAKS RECORDS.

Busy Industries, Active Trades, and Large Crops Show Their Effects by an Unprecedented Volume of Business by the Railroads.

Increase for Three Months.
Burlington Railroad.....\$2,270,157
Pennsylvania.....2,078,900
Southern Pacific.....1,854,331
Santa Fe.....1,377,331
Illinois Central.....1,306,417
Canadian Pacific.....1,165,000
Union Pacific.....1,140,240
Erie.....1,129,065
Increase for September:
Gross earnings—\$10,161,090, or 14.87 per cent.
Net earnings—\$5,491,948, or 24.21 per cent.

The figures of railroad earnings for the month of September show an increase that broke all records. Railroads are a barometer of prosperity. The Chicago Times-Herald remarks: Their earnings are the mercury, the rise and fall of which tell the tale of business conditions. When farmers get good prices for their products these are turned over to the railroads to be taken to market. When factory chimneys are smoking the output of the mines of human industry is carried by railroads far and wide. When merchants sell goods they have to be transported to the consumers. Railroad earnings respond to fluctuations in these industrial and commercial activities with all the sensitiveness of the delicate meteorological instruments that are affected by slight variations in the pressure of the atmosphere.

Big railroad earnings mean good times. They are the proof that the productive forces of the country are at work. They are the evidence of the faith of business men. During the past five or six months they have been rolling up like a mighty tide. Since the protective tariff set the factories humming and foreign nations have demanded more American breadstuffs, the figures have been swelling in size and increasing in number with joyful rapidity.

At the head of this column are the figures showing the increase in the gross earnings of several of the large railroads for July, August and September. Not one of them shows an increase of less than \$1,000,000 for the quarter of a year, and two of them had gains exceeding \$2,000,000 each.

September is the last month for which there is an approximately full report of earnings. These show an increase in gross earnings over last year of the enormous sum of \$10,161,090, or 14.87 per cent. The increase in net earnings was \$5,491,948, or 24.21 per cent. It is said there is no record in the history of American railroads of another such gain.

The movement of grain has been of extraordinary proportions, but all railroad managers agree there has been also a splendid revival in general trade. On the other hand, the traffic might have been much greater but for disturbing factors. In the South yellow fever lessened business, and in the North the miners' strike cut down shipments.

Trade everywhere and in all branches is active. Manufacturing industries have started again and are working full time. Crops, particularly in the West, have been large and depleted stocks of goods are being replenished. All this means business for the railroads.

Here is a statement for the second week of October, showing the gain in gross earnings over the corresponding week of last year:

	Baltimore and Ohio—Southwest	ern
Canadian Pacific	\$27,074	204,000
Chicago and Ohio	23,445	23,445
Chicago and Eastern Illinois	23,431	23,431
Chicago Great Western	19,152	19,152
Monon	16,881	16,881
Milwaukee and St. Paul	64,572	64,572
Big Four	38,855	38,855
Denver and Rio Grande	29,700	29,700
Grand Trunk	25,313	25,313
Iowa Central	23,213	23,213
Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf	42,224	42,224
Lake Erie and Western	3,816	3,816
Minneapolis and St. Louis	7,253	7,253
Missouri, Kansas and Texas	2,090	2,090
Missouri Pacific	107,000	107,000
Norfolk and Western	32,336	32,336
Northern Pacific	69,002	69,002
Rio Grande Western	29,000	29,000
St. Louis and San Francisco	42,055	42,055
Southern Railway	6,947	6,947
Texas and Pacific	14,823	14,823
Wabash	47,491	47,491
Wisconsin Central	15,458	15,458
The gains in gross earnings for the second week in November, so far as reported, show a continuation of the record of prosperity as follows:		
Canadian Pacific	\$150,000	5,110
Chicago and Ohio	5,384	5,384
Chicago and Eastern Illinois	10,849	10,849
Chicago Great Western	30,842	30,842
Monon	19,105	19,105
Milwaukee and St. Paul	41,400	41,400
Denver and Rio Grande	1,707	1,707
Evansville and Terre Haute	6,220	6,220
Iowa Central	45,773	45,773
Lake Erie and Western	2,701	2,701
Minneapolis and St. Louis	5,538	5,538
Missouri, Kansas and Texas	116,000	116,000
Missouri Pacific	11,840	11,840
Rio Grande Western	26,886	26,886
Southern Railway	30,990	30,990
Texas and Pacific	52,515	52,515
Wabash	30,080	30,080
Wisconsin Central	18,221	18,221

Spain of Good Sense.
The New York Evening Post is good enough to say that "the Republican resolution to make no change in the tariff this winter is in every way commendable," because "the country has suffered so much from tariff tinkering that it deserves above all things steadiness in one experiment or other." This is a remarkable spasm of good sense on the

WIND'S AWFUL WORK

NEARLY FIFTY LIVES BLOWN OUT AT FORT SMITH, ARK.

Many Residences and Public Buildings Ground Into Splinters—Dead and Wounded Are Dragged from the Ruins by Survivors.

Cut a Wide Swath.
Fort Smith, Ark., was swept Tuesday night from end to end by a terrific cyclone, and Wednesday the business portion of the town was in ruins, while the dead lay in long rows at the morgue. Fifty people, it is thought, perished in the fury of the storm.

Coming from the southwest the cyclone swept Fort Smith completely, smashing everything along the way. The crash of falling houses was first heard at 11 o'clock and before the sleeping inhabitants could rise and seek refuge the full force of the storm was upon them. Buildings went down in heaps on every side. One large boarding-house, struck by the full power of the tempest, broke in fragments like an eggshell. Fifteen bodies were taken from that boarding-house Wednesday morning, and it is thought that at least twenty-five victims died among the falling timbers. The handsome new high school building, recently erected at a cost of \$100,000, dissolved like a fabric of a dream. Two churches fairly flew asunder when the cyclone pounded on their walls. Residences went crashing to the ground, stores and business blocks followed in one hideous ruin. In a few moments it was over the storm had passed and the city was in ruins.

In the blackness of the night, the uproar of the falling walls, the cries of the injured and the hurrying of flying timbers, the unfortunates were for a time completely panic-stricken. Toward midnight, regaining their self-control as best they could, they began a systematic investigation of the damage done, and also an attack upon a number of fires which had blazed up among the ruined buildings. For a time it seemed as if this new danger would add equal damage to that done by the wild work of the storm. Several bodies, whether dead or living it is hard to say, were cremated in the flames before the fire department could overpower the blaze.

Morning came and revealed a scene of horror and destruction. Among the wreckage, torn out of all shape by the storm, burned and blackened by the ensuing fires, were found more dead, more mangled bodies, and still to be seen. The morning could hold no more. Scores of people who had missed relatives or friends in the wild uproar of the night joined with the searchers, directing and aiding, digging among the masses of masonry, rooting up the fallen timbers and dragging away the shattered beams. No estimate can be made of this time of the damage done to property.

After tearing through Fort Smith the cyclone veered, whirled to the southeast and laid in ruins the town of Alma, nine miles away. It is reported that Alma is almost utterly destroyed and that several people have been certainly killed, while many are missing.

INDIANS IN A FRENZY

Enraged Seminoles Likely to Take the

A bloody uprising of the Seminole Indians is imminent. An alarming state of rioting and hatred exists owing to the burning at the stake by whites of two members of the tribe. Unless immediate steps are taken by the United States authorities the Indians may go on the warpath. Both the Indians and whites were burned from respectable Seminole families, and their fearful fate has aroused their friends and relatives to frenzy.

The crime which led to the burning of the two men was committed on last Thursday. Marcus McGeeley was the owner of some property. On his land there was a white family named Simmons. During the absence of the husband on Thursday McGeeley went to the Simmons cabin and asked for a drink of water. Mrs. Simmons was at home with her four small children. The Indian was given the water and he then asked for a saddle. On being refused McGeeley seized the woman, who had her baby in her arms, and dragged her out of the house. When the woman attempted to run away the Indian seized a Winchester rifle and dealt her a deadly blow on the head, crushing the skull. The woman died instantly.

The feeling was so bitter that the crowd would not be satisfied with the ordinary method of burning, and it was voted to burn them at the stake. The victims were accordingly chained to an oak tree. Fence rails and dry wood were then piled high above them, and in a few minutes the Indians were wrapped in roaring flames, while the timbers crackled beneath their feet. Never a word did the Indians utter while being roasted alive. They appeared to say that they were powerless to resist, and endured their lot like stoics. The crowd was composed of not over thirty men, and the work was done in a quiet but thoroughly determined manner. According to late information the mob's work is not yet finished, and will only be completed when four more Indians have been burned in the same manner as McGeeley and Simmons.

YOUNG GIRL MURDERED.

Her Stepmother Confesses the Crime at the Coroner's Inquest.

Louise Wollett, 12 years old, was murdered in her own home at Algonquin, Ill., Tuesday morning. Her stepmother, Mrs. Christine Wollett, at first of the jury, admitted that she had shot the girl. She said she had asked for breakfast and when Louise turned to ask her mother if she could feed him she shot her in the back. This was at first believed, but the woman's actions and lack of grief aroused suspicions. Finally, when the coroner's inquest was in progress, she confessed the murder. She would not at first give any motive, but little by little it was drawn from her that she wanted the girl out of the way because she feared her testimony in a suit for divorce now pending. The girl had two bullets in her back and one in the right arm, and another had grazed her temple. It was evident from the appearance of things and the blood marks on the floor that a struggle had occurred. After shooting the girl Mrs. Wollett, it is believed, set fire to a mattress with the intention of burning the house. The woman was taken to Woodstock and lodged in jail.

A day coach on the west-bound Western Alabama Railway went through Cahaba, bridge twenty-one miles east of Montgomery, Ala., Conductor Law and Flagman Pope were seriously injured and eighteen passengers received injuries, none of which are serious.

A large expedition of Laplanders is about to start for New York from Copenhagen, Christiania and Tromsø, to go to the Klondike in sledges with reindeer.

The cruiser Duguay Trouin, flagship of the French Pacific squadron, has been ordered to China waters.

TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF.

Uncle Sam's New Year Resolution.

More Work and Wages.
Hundreds of thousands of men who were idle at the beginning of the McKinley administration are now employed, thanks largely to the passage of the Dingley bill, which gives sustaining protection to our manufacturers, and there has been, too, a noticeable increase in wages—Kansas City Journal.

DIED INSTANTLY.

It is a good thing that the Wilson act was not given an opportunity to show that it could raise enough revenue. By the time that point had been reached the sap would have gone from our own industries—Wilmington News.

With His Little Hatchet.

Shakespeare Said
Misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellows.

We are such stuff as dreams are made of, and our little life is rounded with a sleep.

The uncertain glory of an April day
Thou hast some erebrets in thy head now.

The world's mine oyster.
This is the long and short of it.
I cannot tell what the dickens his name is.

As good luck would have it,
I hope good luck lies in odd numbers.
To make him an example.

Oh! it is excellent to have a giant's strength, but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant.

We would, and we would not.
A looker-on here in Vienna.
What's mine is yours, and what is yours is mine.

Every way bath a wherefore.
As merry as the day is long.
Sits the wind in that corner?

From the crown of his head to the sole of his foot.
Comparisons are odorous.
Patch grief with proverb.

For there was never yet philosopher
That could endure the toothache patiently.
Some of us will smart for it.

An Ursuline nun at Boulogne, whose 100th birthday is to be celebrated, entered her convent eighty years ago and has never set foot out of it since.

The latest thing in hotel bills of fare is said to be an edible menu card. It is generally made of biscuit, which the guest eats with his cheese.

DEATH OF MAJOR HANDY.

United States Commissioner to the French Exposition Passes Away.

Major Moses P. Handy died at noon Saturday at Hotel Bon Air, Augusta, Ga. Major Handy was stricken with the illness which ended with his death while he was preparing to leave Paris for America, after completing his work as commissioner to the exposition. When he got to New York he succumbed, but pulled himself together and came to Chicago. In Chicago he appeared to regain vitality, but his pride and interest in his mission led him to plunge into the work of preparing his report. It was no surprise to his friends to hear that he had succumbed while on his way to Washington, congestion of the lungs and kidneys increasing the gravity of the attack. He was removed to Georgia, where he lost strength gradually, and while his friends hoped to

the end that his courage would save him, they were warned that the chances were all against his recovery. The remains were taken to Berlin, Md., for interment.

Major Handy was born in Virginia, his father being a prominent Methodist clergyman. While under age he entered the Confederate service and served with gallantry during the closing months of the war. He was employed by the New York Tribune as special correspondent during the Cuban revolution and won distinction by his report of the Virginia massacre.

Later he became managing editor of the Philadelphia Times, and subsequently the editor of the Philadelphia Daily News. He moved to Chicago in 1893 to accept the position of chief of the bureau of publicity and promotion of the World's Columbian Exposition.

At the close of the fair he went to New York and engaged in literary work and newspaper correspondence for a year. He returned to Chicago as editor of the Times-Herald in 1895, when the paper was purchased by H. H. Kohnst. Last year Major Handy was appointed by President McKinley as special commissioner to the Paris exposition, where he rendered valuable service.

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CRAWFORD CO. DIRECTORY.

COUNTY OFFICERS.	
Sherriff.....	Wm. S. Chalker
Clerk.....	James W. Hartwick
Register.....	John Leese
Treasurer.....	John Rasmussen
Prosecuting Attorney.....	J. Patterson
Judge of Probate.....	J. C. Convery
Surveyor.....	Wm. H. Wright
Supervisors.....	Wm. H. Wright
Grove Township.....	Thos. Wakeley
South Branch.....	P. Richardson
Beaver Creek.....	John Hanna
Maple Fork.....	Benj. F. Sherman
Avon.....	John K. Wright
Frederic.....	W. Patterson
Ball.....	W. Kellough
Blaine.....	F. F. Hark
Center Field.....	A. Emory

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

M. E. CHURCH.—Rev. B. L. Cope, Pastor. Services at 10:30 o'clock a.m. and 7:15 p.m. Sunday school at 12 m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:15 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Sunday school at 12 o'clock. Y. P. S. C. E. at 6 p.m. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening.

DANISH EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH.—Rev. A. P. W. Bekker, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., and every Wednesday at 7 p.m. A lecture in school room 12 m.

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.—Rev. J. J. Williams, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Sunday school at 1 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.—Father H. Webber. Regular services the 2nd Sunday in each month.

GRAYLING LODGE, No. 353, F. & A. M. meets in regular communication on Thursday evening on or before the full of the moon.

MARVIN POST, No. 240, G. A. R. meets the second and fourth Saturdays in each month.

WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS, No. 192. meets on the 1st and 4th Saturdays at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

GRAYLING CHAPTER, R. A. M., No. 121. Meets every third Tuesday in each month.

GRAYLING LODGE, I. O. O. F., No. 137. Meets every Tuesday evening.

OBASWORD TENT, K. O. T. M., No. 102. Meets every Saturday evening.

GRAYLING CHAPTER, ORDER OF EASTERN STAR, No. 88. Meets Monday evening on or before the full of the moon.

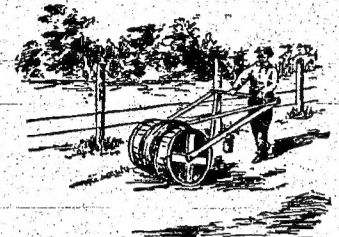
COURT GRAYLING, I. O. F., No. 700. Meets second and last Wednesday of each month.

GRAYLING HIVE, No. 54, L. O. T. M. Meets every first and third Wednesday of each month.

REGULAR CONVO



Wire Fence Reel.
For a home-made wire fence reel simply convert an empty barrel into a hand roller. Across the open end, two pieces are nailed at right angles and in the center of this, as well as the bottom, a hole is bored to admit an iron rod. The push frame can be made of light pieces of hard wood braced across and on the under side a staple or hook is inserted to carry a can or paint bucket with tools, staples, etc. This may be suspended from the rod.



Wire Fence Reel.
Just inside the open end of the barrel by means of an S-shaped wire, but is not quite so convenient. In removing wire, one end is stapled to the barrel and then it is a simple matter to push the carriage before you. In this way the wire is not damaged through the dirt and so does not gather much litter. If it is a temporary fence, it is frequently necessary to move it but a short distance and then it can be pushed all the way, but if the removal is to a greater distance, the rod can be taken out and the barrel with its coil of wire lifted into a wagon.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Small Farms Pay.
Small farms can be made to pay if properly utilized. One farmer in New York State who has but twenty-five acres keeps two horses, one cow, and raises two pigs each year, growing all the food required to support his family and stock, making poultry and eggs his specialties. He devoted most of his time to poultry, claiming that it was less work than hauling milk to the railroad station in the winter, and that eggs bring good prices every year. The result was that he made a fair profit, while farmers with large farms claimed to have made nothing. When farmers decide that poultry can be made a leading object on farms, and not given up to women and children, they will have a source of income better than many others and for every month in the year.

Milking Stool.
I have used a milking stool made and illustrated on the plan described below for six years, says Lyman Parmelee, in Farm and Home. The seat board (a) is of two-inch plank, nine inches wide, 14 inches long. The stool board (b) is two inches thick, nine inches broad and long, cut round. A three-eighths inch bolt (c) is put through the middle, the head sunk, the nut left off, so the seat will revolve. The seat is 11 inches high. A hoop (d) is fastened with staples on the upright board (d) to hold the bucket so it will be 11 inches from the floor to its upper rim. I use a two-gallon tin pail. A heavy wire is used for a hoop. The



CONVENIENT MILKING STOOL.

Variation in Ensilage.
It is too commonly supposed that ensilage made from fodder corn must be uniform in its nutritive value. This is by no means the fact. The ensilage put up the last few years is much better than that which was made at first, when a large quantity rather than quality was what was mainly sought for. All corn ensilage requires that some supplementary food be given with it, for corn is not a well-balanced ration. But some corn ensilage requires more of other food as its supplement. It is possible to ensilage corn when it has reached the earing stage, cutting up the ear with the stalk. This is worth twice or three as much for the same bulk as corn fodder sown or drilled too thickly to allow it to form ears, and cut as soon as it got into tassel.

Cultivation of Oats.
At Cornell University oats were sown broadcast, in the usual manner, the yield per acre being thirty-seven bushels. On another plot the oats were drilled in fifteen inches apart, the hand-wheel hoe being used to work between the rows. This may appear to some as giving a large share of labor in that manner, but as the yield on the drilled and worked plot was sixty-one bushels per acre the method is worthy of attention. A man with a wheel hoe can go over a large piece of ground in a day, and it is possible that the method will pay.

Dehorning Cows.
For dehorning fasten the cow securely in a stock with a halter and rope, so the dehorner can work with one hand and hold the head with the other. Take the horns off close to the head that about one-quarter of an inch of the skin is removed with the horn. The skin will

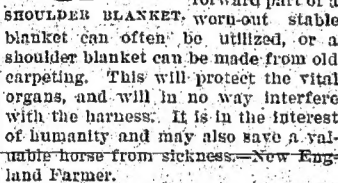
grow over the wound and prevent the horn from growing again. November and April are the best months in which to perform the operation, or any time when the weather is cool, but not severely cold, and there are no flies. Farm and Fireside.

Coal Ashes as Manure.
Chemical analysis shows that there is very little of value in coal ashes. Yet the fact that they are porous makes them an excellent mulch for fruit trees, and if they are spread thickly on the grass, by destroying that they save the soil beneath from loss of moisture and fertility, and have thus practically the same effect as manure. Some remarkable growths of squashes, pumpkins and tomatoes have been made on heaps of coal ashes where the seeds of those plants had been scattered. But in every case there was some wood ashes among the coal ashes, or else the coal ash pile had been for months the convenient receptacle for every kind of refuse from the house, most of which contained considerable of the elements that make fertile soil.

An Earth Scraper.
This is a valuable implement on the farm. If perfect under-drainage has not been secured, the surface channels should not be lost sight of. On every farm there are slight depressions or basins, which might be easily emptied by lowering the rim at some point by removal of the dirt to the lowest places. It will be a surprise to those not having tried it to apply a scraper in a judicious manner, to such places to see the results. Water should not be permitted to stand upon the soil during any portion of the year. It is very injurious to land. In fact, an excess of saturation is more damaging than drought. Water destroys fertility as well as crops, while dryness preserves the richness of the land, if vegetation does suffer for lack of moisture.

Foot Rot in Sheep.
The natural habitat of the sheep is on high and often rocky lands. By contact with rocks and stones the hoofs of sheep are naturally pruned. When they are kept on low, wet ground the hoof grows long, and being very little sensitive it is easily softened until it begins to rot. There can be no doubt that this is caused by some germ, for rubbing the hoof with blue vitriol, which is one of the best germ killers, will destroy it. But the germ seems to be indigenous to all wet lands where sheep are kept, and it is the worst affliction with which sheep can be afflicted. When it once gets into a flock it can be carried to land that is high and dry, and will propagate there.

Protection for Horses.
It is undesirable that horses at work on cold, blistering winter days suffer severely from the chilling temperature, especially where they are compelled to pause every little while after severe effort. Fit a shoulder-blanket to the work horse, like that shown in the cut. The forward part of a shoulder-blanket worn-out stable blanket can often be utilized, or a shoulder-blanket can be made from old carpeting. This will protect the vital organs, and will in no way interfere with the harness. It is in the interest of humanity and may also save a valuable horse from sickness.—New England Farmer.



Growing Onion Sets.
Try an experiment in growing onion sets and onions the same year, even if on a small scale. Make a cold frame in the winter, fill the bottom with fresh horse manure, and over this put a rich, sifted dirt. Cover with boards at night or use glass sash. The point is not to have it too warm for onions. Sow onion seed as thick as desired, and should they grow too fast let in more air or cool with water. In the spring use these small onions as sets, transplanting them in the open air.

Potato Crop Short.
It is estimated that the potato crop is 70,000,000 bushels less than last year. Farmers are disposed to shorten a crop the following year if there is a surplus, and the result is better prices, because the supply is less than the demand. A farmer who has watched the market and has noticed that a short yield follows one that is heavy will plant more, instead of growing a smaller crop after a year of plenty.

Shelter the Pigs.
The hog is unable to endure severely cold weather, yet it is kept in the most uncomfortable situation of any other animal. The pig pen should be well littered and dry, and the shelter should contain no cracks or opening for draughts of air.

Horse Talk.
When loaded let the team stop often to get their breath. It pays. Better go twice than overload the team. This overloading is a fruitful cause for unsoundness.

Be especially careful in loading the colts—a little lack of judgment has ruined many a fine horse. Drive colts only short distances first, not far enough to tire them in the least. Increase the distance a little every day, and you will insure a prompt, free driver.

If you have a man in your employ who is timid and nervous, keep him away from the colts. It requires a level-headed, cool, courageous man to handle colts successfully.

Inspire the confidence of colts by kindness and firmness every time you go near them, then, and the education will be easily and successfully accomplished.

Horticultural Notes.
Make quality rather than quantity the principal aim. Having the orchard properly trimmed keeps the trees bearing well. Choose young, thrifty trees, with good roots and straight, clean tops. Annual pruning largely avoids the necessity for removing large limbs. Fruit trees or plants will not take care of themselves. They must be helped. In setting out a tree, give some of the top soil, especially to put around the roots.—Rural World.

GOWNS AND GOWNING

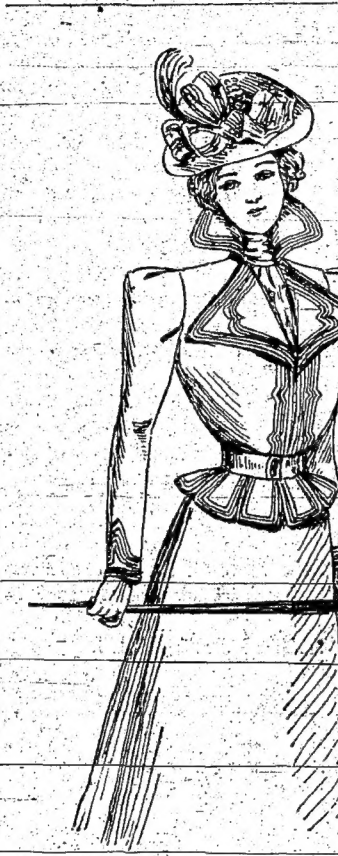
WOMEN GIVE MUCH ATTENTION TO WHAT THEY WEAR.

Brief Glances at Fancies Feminine, Frivolous, Mayhap, and Yet Offered in the Hope that the Reading Prove Restful to Weary Womanhood.

Gossip from Gay Gotham.

New York correspondence:

In contrast to the plainness that now dominates most outdoor rigs, is much of elegance in finish, which, if not actually on the inside in the shape of linings, has the effect of being part of a concealed garment or accessory. Fifteen years ago mothers used to say: "It's vulgar to make a show of elegance outdoors, at the expense of the finish inside." Mothers are now apt to give no such advice. For the tendency is all to suggest elegance, delicacy and beauty of linings, petticoats, etc., in pliant contrast to a rather plain severity of exterior. Count



match the belt with all sizes of brilliant stones, in green, turquoise and cut jet. The inside blouse showing at the opening was delicate tissue in gray over marigold, a soft bow was bunched at the throat, and the cuffs were faced back to match the revers. This dress was not considered an elaborate one, yet even where revers do not turn back so far and when only a small portion of the blouse is opened, the facing of the revers may with propriety be white satin, though the cloth is a demure brown or mouse color. The latter shade was employed for the companion gown to the one just described. Sleeves are rarely left plain at the wrist, but the funnel cuff is not as often seen as in the earlier gowns of the season. Cuffs usually turn back and in ornamentation follow the suggestion of throat or revers fluffs. If there is no cuff, then there is more or less elaborate braiding, and often a bit of the material with which the gown is lined. Sleeves are all long, fitting well down on the hand, and hiding even the first button of the glove. It is hard to understand why, when the "Russian" blouse was offered to women a few years ago, they would have none of it, yet now that there is another chance at it, they wonder however in the world they were comfortable without it. Perhaps this is because when offered last time it came as a sudden and violent change from the tight-fitting rigs women had been put



ting themselves into, and fashion will not allow itself to be whirled into sudden contrasts, but for the past four years women have been getting used to loose fronts and the like. The blouse just now is much less baggy and is much better shaped than when first offered. There is not so much contrast between full blouse and flat skirts, and the skirts are in some cases really fluted, though almost always they are entirely separate from the blouse, that fit thickness at the waist may be avoided. Almost all blouses appear to open over what seems to be an under vest or chemise, but of these a large propor-

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE LESSON.

Reflections of an Elevating Character—'Wholesome Food' for Thought—Studying the Scriptural Lesson Intelligently and Profitably.

Lesson for January 23.

Golden Text.—"Ye are the light of the world."—Matt. 5: 14.

This lesson is found in Matt. 5: 1-12, and treats of the beatitudes. Comparison with Luke 6: 20-26 is most interesting. Each of eight beatitudes there are four beatitudes and four woes. To account for this difference, and inquire what bearing it has on the relation of the two gospels, is too large a question to enter here.

"The poor in spirit." We are so familiar with these beatitudes that often we suppose we understand them perfectly. But at the very beginning, we meet difficulties. Does this mean what we call poor-spirited, unambitious people? If it does, there is almost a repetition in the third beatitude—though as we shall see, meekness is not cowardice. But this first beatitude means something different. Prof. A. B. Bruce, in the new "Expositor's Greek Testament," of which the first volume is just out, defines it thus: "Poor in their own esteem. Self-esteem is the essence of the matter, and is compatible with real wealth. Only the noble think meanly of themselves. Poverty is not a mean; it is a virtue. A high ideal of life lies beneath all. The poor man passes into the blessedness of the kingdom as soon as he realizes what a man is or ought to be. Poor in purse or even in character, no man is beggared who has a vision of man's chief end and chief good." Such men have the kingdom of heaven within them. It should be remembered that in these beatitudes Jesus is in reality defining the kingdom of heaven; defining it by description. Eight different qualities of the heart he names as characteristic of the men who belong to the kingdom.

"Blessed are they that mourn," surely there must be some foundation for this. There is nothing intrinsically worthy in grief, nothing which ensures future comfort. We cannot suppose that Jesus meant merely to utter the commonplace statement that all sorrows lose their sharpness by the flight of time. Something far deeper must be his meaning. We shall not attempt to define it. The mourners who belong to the kingdom of heaven are in no danger of mistaking the scope of the promise. They know, well enough when their mourning is blessed, when it is sure to receive ultimate comfort, and they know when their grief is only remorse for sin, or sinful worry over things that cannot be helped; for much grief comfort is not promised. But all "goodly sorrow," Jesus says, shall end in comfort.

"Blessed are the meek." Here again, we quote from Prof. Bruce on this passage: "The men who suffer wrong without bitterness or desire for revenge, a class who in this world are apt to go to the wall. In this case we should have expected the teacher to say, 'Do not retaliate, there is the kingdom of heaven,' that being the only thing they are likely to get. But Jesus promises to the meek the empire of the solid earth. Is it not a delusive promise? Not altogether. It is at least true as a doctrine of moral tendency. The meek of England, driven from their native land by religious intolerance, have inherited the continent of America."

"Blessed are they that hunger, and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." Perhaps none of the beatitudes is dearer to the Christian heart than this. It is the beatitude of the unmaterialist; the promise of fulfillment to all who long for the best things. But no man has the right lightly and easily to claim this promise because he has frequent desires to be better and purposes to reform. To hunger and thirst after righteousness means to long for righteousness intensely, persistently, and as a rule, to try to live in this life, as the thing absolutely necessary to sustain the life of the soul. A man who thinks of righteousness only on Sundays does not hunger and thirst for it. A man who has a sentimental admiration for goodness in poetry, in romance, or in real life, does not hunger and thirst after righteousness. But we hunger and thirst for, we work for with all our might, knowing that we must have it or die.

It is true that the merciful do obtain mercy from their fellow men, in many cases, but not always. The ultimate meaning is that merciful men shall receive mercy from God. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Commentators remark that mercy is a peculiarly Christian virtue. Of course mercy is enjoined in the Old Testament, but along with it are many things that seem to us cruel and harsh.

"Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God." In its perfect simplicity and sublimity this sentence is perhaps the greatest of all. It is true that similar statements had been made by philosophers, by sacred books of other religions. But in most cases those other statements are in a form which has made it easy for them to be interpreted in support of asceticism and other errors. Thus the original devotee holds that he must be "pure in heart," that is, free from any disturbing thought of earthly things, in order to attain the mood of contemplation which enables him to approach the divine. But he does it in absurd ways, quite impossible to the thought of Jesus. The phrase of Jesus surpasses all these philosophers. The sentence implies, though it does not say, that only the pure in heart shall see God. Hence the words cannot refer to that ignorance of evil which is possible only to children and to the most protected lives; for that would shut out from the vision of God the vast majority even of good men, who have been tempted although they have never committed temptation. "They shall be called the children of God," because God himself is the greatest of peacemakers. Compare the beautiful collect of the "Book of Common Prayer": "Almighty God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is a perfect freedom, defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies." etc.

Never forget these three words, "for righteousness' sake." This promise has often been claimed by those who are persecuted for their own folly or obstinacy. There is especial virtue in being persecuted. One may well question whether John Storn, the hero of Italy's Catholic story, "The Christian," was persecuted for righteousness' sake, or because of his quixotic and wild ideas, his impracticable attempts at reform, his impracticable attempts at idealism, his impracticable, healthy Christianity. We have no right to rest content under suffering and persecution unless we are quite sure that these things are spoken against us "for righteousness' sake."

Next Lesson.—How to Pray.—Matt. 6: 5-15.

Not Much Duty.
The people of England have 8,226,000 acres of land, and 3,000,000 acres are in the hands of the nobles and gentry. The land is so divided that some people starve and some are rich.

CONTEST FOR VERDI'S HAT.

Clever Proceeding to Secure Possession of a Valued Souvenir.

The other day the Marquis Di Rudini, arriving in Genoa from Monza, where he had been to confer with the king before the latter went to Germany, descended from the train, having twenty minutes to wait. He was met by the city authorities and the station master, with whom he spoke pleasantly, when all of a sudden from an incoming train Giuseppe Verdi stepped down. The station master, seeing him, asked permission to retire to Rudini, who, having given it, looked in the direction in which he was going and himself recognized the great musician. Calling the station master back, he asked him to present him to Verdi, which he consented willingly to do. While asking permission to make the introduction he was followed by the premier, who, hunched, hat in hand, advanced with the greatest deference. The Marquis Di Rudini expressed his pleasure at meeting the purest and most vivid glory of living Italy.

"Never as to-day," he added. "Have I felt so happy in representing Italy. I congratulate you on your health, and wish you innumerable long years of life."

The maestro is as straight and sturdy as an oak, and his strength is remarkable for one of his years. This graceful incident was followed shortly after by a laughable little scene, which reminds one of the two guests at dinner, one of whom saw his companion putting a silver spoon in his pocket, which he decided to gain possession of himself. He began to boast of his cleverness at sleight of hand, and, in being invited to exhibit his skill, rose, took a spoon, put it in his pocket, and, with a flourish, said: "Please examine the pocket of the gentleman opposite."

After taking leave of the premier, Verdi went to the station buffet, where, on returning to the train, he forgot his hat. A lady and a gentleman who had been watching the maestro all the time, jumped for the hat, but unfortunately arrived at the same moment, each seizing the brim, whereupon ensued a struggle of see-saw, the lady emerging triumphant, exclaiming: "Ah! now I have got it, and now I intend to keep it." At this moment a gentleman who had assisted at the contest, with apparent growing stupefaction, stepped forward, saying: "But this is my hat." A loud laugh rang out from those present, in which the recent combatants could not help joining. But I leave their rage and chagrin to be imagined when, a few moments later, they discovered the trap into which they had fallen. It was the hat of the great composer.—Mail Gazette.

A MINISTER JOURNALIST.

Dr. Hepworth Throws New Light on the Armenian Massacres.

Rev. Dr. George H. Hepworth, the famous New York divine who is in Armenia investigating the Turkish outrages on the Christians there by the Turks, has written several letters to a New York paper giving the results of his investigations. He says that all the blame for the massacres does not lie with the Turk, and that politics had a

great deal to do with the troubles. He throws considerable new light on the subject. Dr. Hepworth began his professional life as a Unitarian clergyman, and filled several pulpits in New England before he was called to the Church of the Messiah in New York. In 1872 he preached a farewell sermon there in which he announced himself a believer in the divinity of Christ. He then joined the Presbyterian faith, and organized a congregation of that creed. His ministry was afterward divided among several churches in New Jersey. In 1887 he resigned from his profession, though not from the church, to devote himself to journalism.

A recently devised bread-traster and steak broiler, made of fine wire and steel rods, has a setting which prevents the blade from reaching the bread, oysters, steak, chops, or whatever is placed within it.

Potato-pares and slicers are labor-saving, and potato scoops quickly cut the raw vegetable into attractive little balls; and the apple-pares and corers, that have long been in use, are noticed in many new forms.

One Point in Wintering Bees. An apiculturist of long experience has this to say in the Beekeepers' Review regarding upward ventilation: My conclusion is that upward ventilation appears to increase somewhat the tendency to an accumulation of feces, and also, at least in this experiment, to decrease the strength of the colony, and if this appearance is real we may conclude that the upward movement of the air disperses the bees and causes a larger proportion than otherwise would to leave the cluster and perish.

Good Boys Are Dangerous. An Aitchison mother never has awake nights worrying over her boys unless they become very good. She says that when a boy is very good it means that the doctor should be called, and the boy's feet soaked in mustard water while waiting for him to come.

To protect horses' feet from injury on hard-wire fences a flexible metal band is used, which is adapted to fasten around the foot of an armor and protect the foot from injury.

Thick, green, green and oratorio... (text is partially obscured)

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

To Clean Kid Gloves.

It is necessary that the glove be stretched as on the hand. Of course every one knows that before cleaning gloves should be carefully examined, and all rips, however tiny, mended, and buttons sewn firmly on. Then stretch them as free from wrinkles as possible and rub with a white flannel rag thickly smeared with a paste made as follows: To one pint of boiling water add one and one-half ounces of any good white soap cut into shavings; boil five or ten minutes after the soap is thoroughly dissolved. Then remove from the fire and strain through a thin cloth into earthen or glass vessels—not tin. One point to be observed in selecting the soap is to have it as odorless as possible. This paste will keep any length of time, and is useful in cleaning many articles.

To Cure a Cold.

A most excellent remedy for a cold, which may easily be made at home, and which has the advantage of being pleasant, as well as effective, is made as follows: Wash two lemons, and put them in a quart of boiling water. Boil twenty minutes; remove, and while hot, cut the lemons open and remove the pulp and juice. Strain through a coarse sieve, to remove the seeds, and mix with half a cupful of granulated sugar. Stand in a cool place until it has jellied. Take a teaspoonful every half-hour. This is an old German receipt, and is particularly good for bronchial affections, as well as ordinary colds.

Nut Candy.

Take nice apple sugar with sufficient water to dissolve it, one tablespoonful of vinegar to two pounds of sugar and a piece of butter the size of a walnut. Boil until hard when tried in water. Pour immediately into a buttered pan in which the nuts have been placed. Cut into sticks before it is cold.

Fish Turbans.

Take thin strips of haddock or halibut, roll, skewer with wooden toothpicks, season with salt, pepper and melted butter, and lay a slice of onion on each turban. Remove the onion before baking, place the fish in a shallow pan and bake for ten to twenty minutes.

Maple Rolls.

Take one quart of bread dough, when it is molded for the last rising; mold in a cup of maple sugar, one-quarter teaspoonful of soda, one-teaspoonful of butter. Let it rise and mold again and cut out, rise and bake. These are nice.

Tomato Sauce.

One tablespoonful of butter, one tablespoonful of flour, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one-half teaspoonful of white pepper, one cupful of strained tomato. Make like cream sauce and pour over the turbans.

Brief Hints.

Cold cooked vegetables and the like must be covered, if not kept in a wired cupboard.

Dried fruits are best kept in bags, and hung upon a dry wall; but they may also be well preserved, if properly dried, in boxes.

Knives with serrated edges, and in three sizes, for cutting cake and bread without crumbling, even when hot, have come into general use.

Apples and oranges keep longest by being wrapped separately in tissue paper, and spread out, so as not to touch each other, in a cool, dry place.

A glass funnel is a decided improvement over the tin affair. Its tube shows whether it is clean or not, and it can never corrode, as tin and copper funnels do.

A glass lemon cone, for perfectly squeezing out of the juice from lemons that have first been cut in half, keeps the seed and seeds from the juice, thus saving the trouble of straining.

Strong glass has superseded tin and iron in the making of many utensils, to the housekeeper's great advantage. Tin and other metals hitherto used tarnish readily, and are liable to injure the food.

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REV. DR. GEORGE H. HEPWORTH.



THE FAMILY DOCTOR.

The Avalanche.

O. PALMER, Editor & Proprietor

THURSDAY, JAN. 20, 1898.

Entered in the Post Office, at Grayling, Mich., as second-class matter.

POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

The Senate has taken up the Hawaiian treaty. The senators favor it in accord with a vast majority of the American people.

The way for the Commissioner to "purge the pension roll" is to attend to his sworn duty and purge it not talk about it in the newspapers.

"Publicomania" is a new word, defined as "a craving for notoriety." It seems to have been coined for use in referring to certain members of the Ohio legislature.

The tonnage which passed through the Sault Ste. Marie canal, the present year was twice as large as that which passed through the great Suez canal.

The Democratic gentlemen who were out for sound money a year or so ago, are now sounding the unsound money men with the view of reaching something more substantial than mere sound. — Globe-Democrat.

The various silver factions which recently met at Washington agreed that they would stand together for silver, with the ratio 16 to 1. The Mexican dollar was too rich in silver to suit them.

We do not see any more articles in the Democratic papers wallowing over the failure of the Dingley law as a revenue producer. The December surplus of almost two millions has silenced them.

If the Commissioner of Pensions knows of any frauds on the pension rolls it is his duty to hunt them out and send them to the penitentiary, instead of talking to the newspapers about them.

The people of Ohio are honest in politics. The demonstration of this fact beyond cavil is worth a good deal. The state has suffered in national estimation, because the contrary was the current belief.

It is reported that the flint-glass factories of the country have such large orders ahead, since the extensive resumption of work in that industry, that it will be impossible to fill them for some weeks to come.

An English paper says China will probably transfer its orders for cotton from India to the United States on account of the more favorable price. The productions of this country are gaining ground in the markets of the world. — Globe-Dem.

Great Britain bought produce in the United States last year to the extent of \$773,000,000, and paid for it in British gold. Mr. Bryan is still advising farmers to sell their surplus crops for silver, taking all the chances of such a tremendous change in the currency. — Globe-Democrat.

One reason why 1898 is going to be a better business year than 1897 was is that everybody thinks it will be. The immediate outlook is much brighter now than it was twelve months ago, and the general opinion is that it will be still brighter six months hence. There is no room for pessimists in this country these days.

It can scarcely be affirmed that the white men of Oklahoma, who "burned two Indians at the stake," set any noble example of civilization to the red men. It mattered not what their crime was, it offers no justification for the white savagery. The United States should hunt the perpetrators down and punish them as murderers. — Inter-Ocean.

Wheat exportations to Europe continue heavy. Including flour, the wheat exportations from this country to Europe during the past year have been over one-half of the total exportations. Our exports of wheat have amounted to over 180,000,000 bushels as against the world's total shipment of about 320,000,000 bushels.

The death rate of veteran Union soldiers is now about 100 per day, and every year adds largely to the mortality. This must be very consoling to the groaners and mourners over "pension frauds" and "national paupers." An eminent soldier statesman recently remarked: "If you want good soldiers for the next war, treat well our old soldiers of the last war." It is a great truth. The men who followed the flag from 1861 to 1865 have not been overpaid for their service, nor do the honest, patriotic people believe they have. — Inter-Ocean.

The Grayling Exchange Bank.

So much has been said pro and con

concerning the bank failure and the absconding of Mr. Staley, the subsequent action of Mr. Trench, the conduct of the attorneys and the committee, and what should and should not have been done, that we propose to give a brief history of the whole matter, that the facts may be known and all may draw their own conclusions.

The Grayling Exchange Bank was established here in January 1887, by John Staley, who afterwards formed a co-partnership with Chauncey C. Trench, of Bloomsburg, Pa., and continued the business which was apparently prosperous to the close of business Oct. 30th, 1897.

Mr. Staley had been an exemplary citizen and won the confidence of the entire community, holding many positions of honor and trust to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The morning of Nov. 1st, the bank did not open as usual and at a later hour it was found that Mr. Staley had absconded, leaving the bank with no available assets and a deficiency of about \$25,000.00.

Three writs of attachment were issued, in favor of Salling, Hanson & Co., Geo. L. Alexander and Mrs. J. E. McKnight, and all property in sight was attached. The attorneys in these cases with numerous creditors had an informal meeting and all agreed that the loss was so general, and in many instances so peculiarly distressing, that no preference should be shown, and no advantage taken, but that all creditors should share and share alike, and with that end in view, steps were immediately taken for the appointment of a Receiver.

The necessary papers were prepared, and Mr. J. K. Wright went to the court with a petition, securing the appointment of Marius Hanson, who had been selected at a public meeting of the creditors, and the property of the company and of the individual members of the firm was taken possession of by that officer.

Mr. Alexander went to Pennsylvania to see what could be done to secure the creditors by attachment or otherwise on the property of Mr. Trench. Arriving there and advising with the best counsel obtainable, he found the law different from here, in that the claims could not be consolidated and all brought in a single suit on attachment, but that separate suits would be required for each claim and that no attachment could issue to foreign creditors until judgment was obtained.

At this stage Mr. Trench appeared with his attorney and made two propositions for settlement of his liability, one that he would turn over certain property in Florida, the Commercial House, and all the personal property of the bank in this state, or in lieu of the Florida property he would pay \$10,000 in money.

Mr. Alexander returned, and the propositions were presented to the creditors at a public meeting, who accepted the proposition of cash and property.

The attorneys and committee at once proceeded to prepare all the necessary papers to carry out this plan of settlement, and pending this work the correspondence following, was received, which we believe proves that all were acting in good faith up to the present month.

On the receipt of the last letter a meeting of the creditors was called, but no plan of action decided, as some of the creditors took the position that all actions past were void and illegal, and those who had been most active, were denounced in unstinted terms. Finding that no agreement was likely to be promptly reached, Mr. Hanson consulted with his attorney, and some of the heaviest creditors, and on Monday night Mr. Alexander started south to look over the situation and take such action as was deemed best.

Regarding the individual property of Mr. Staley it has all been deeded in trust to Messrs. Wright and Palmer, including their homestead, which has been sold for \$1,250.00, and Mrs. Staley has executed a deed for her property at St. Ignace, which is believed to be valuable, and the trustees are working to convert this property into cash at the earliest possible moment, that it may be distributed.

We ask all interested to read the attached correspondence carefully, and we believe they will be satisfied that all has been done that was possible to hasten the settlement, by the Receiver and the committee here, and whether the last action of Mr. Trench is an honest one or not, we must wait to know. In the meantime do not be guided by prejudice or passion, but be ready to act promptly, as business judgment may dictate.

LEESBURG, Florida, Saturday night, 7.30 p.m., Nov. 20th, 1897.

Mr. Hanson.

Dear Sir:—I made propositions to Mr. Geo. L. Alexander in writing, and have had no report from him on the same.

Whenever your people fully decide which one of the propositions made in writing you will accept, let me

know, and probably inside of 30 days I could meet the first proposition.

Yours truly

C. C. TRENCH.

LEESBURG, Flor., Nov. 27, '97.

Mr. George L. Alexander,

Grayling, Michigan.

Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 24th to hand. Will write you more fully in a few days, and arrange to meet the first proposition in a short time, and make some arrangements here without giving Messrs. Bushley and Zarra any further trouble with this matter. Mr. Bushley said he had received a telegram from you, before I left Bloomsburg, Pa., and you wanted \$12,000.00. I went and told Mr. Zarra to say to him I would do only what I had agreed to, when you were here.

Yours truly

C. C. TRENCH.

(On back is written):

To the Commercial Hotel.

I find I have not got the deed. It must be at Grayling, at the bank. If it can't be found then you can get it from the Court House, as there was a deed made by the Sheriff to Thomas Trench, and that is the only way I know at present.

LEESBURG, Flor., Dec. 6, '97.

Mr. Geo. L. Alexander,

Grayling, Michigan.

Dear Sir:—Your letter of 2d to hand with deed to sign of lots 11 and 12, also bill of sale, which you will have to itemize more minutely. Also you mention Maurice Hanson, but do not represent him as receiver. I now have the \$10,000.00 ready, and as soon as Mr. Budd comes home from Philadelphia, I will have him pay over the money to the receiver of Grayling Exchange Bank, via, if there is one appointed.

Mr. Budd is cashier of the State and County Bank of Leesburg, Fla. He is in Philadelphia on business, and may not return inside of 10 days, but as soon as he does, I will give the matter my attention, and instruct you what I will require of the Receiver of the Grayling Exchange Bank.

Yours respectfully

C. C. TRENCH.

LEESBURG, Flor., Dec. 27, '97.

Mr. M. Hanson, Grayling, Mich.

Dear Sir:—I have a draft for your people's place Dec. 1st, but have been waiting on Mr. Budd, and he has not returned yet. His people think he will be here by Jan. 1st. Your proposition I do not fully agree with, and I notice no one has written me as Receiver, simply signing their name, and I shall not pay a dollar until you can send a statement, and that statement fully satisfied by the creditors in full.

Yours truly

C. C. TRENCH.

G. CHEWYND STAPYLTON, President.

LEESBURG, Fla., Jan. 7, '98.

Mr. Marius Hanson,

Grayling, Mich.

Dear Sir:—Your letter and statement of Grayling Exchange Bank was handed to me by Mr. Budd, cashier of the Leesburg County and State Bank. I made arrangements to pay the Grayling Exchange Bank the \$10,000, to settle with the creditors, and now I am disappointed by meeting with a heavy loss, which amounts to twenty thousand dollars to me, and leaves me a poor man, and all I have at the present time is my real estate here, and I am willing to deed it over to your people, and my wagons, harness, mules and my land in general. This is a painful letter for me to write you, as I had intended to pay you the money (say ten thousand dollars) but can't do it now. Send a representative, and I will deed over to your people.

Yours very respectfully

C. C. TRENCH.

THE WEST BRANCH KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

DRAMATIC CLUB

Will present the beautiful and sensational Melo-Drama, "Only a Farmers' Daughter," at the Opera House,

THURSDAY EVENING, JAN. 27th, 1898.

The following is the cast of characters:

CAST.

Harold Lennox, a wealthy author.

Jack Harley, alias Phillip Bartram.

Sammy Green, a Farmer Lad.

Higgins, the Butler.

Keeper of Prison.

Lizzie Stark, devoted to Jack.

Madame Lauricent, the Adventuress.

Justine, the Farmers Daughter.

Mollie, devoted to Justine and Nellie.

Mother Stark, of Poverty Hollow.

Little Nellie, Mamma's treasure.

C. L. AUSTIN.

J. F. SARGENT.

A. N. BROCK.

E. M. HARRIS.

PHILANDER SMITH.

MRS. J. T. SARGENT.

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MISS CORA WINSLOW.

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SYNOPSIS.

ACT I.—Lizzie Stark, a New York girl helps her lover escape from Sing-Sing. Justine will not be deceitful, even to help a woman in distress. Lizzie becomes embittered against the world. "Henceforth I will live for Jack and myself."

ACT II.—The wealthy author's home. Lizzie Stark, in pursuance of her vow, appears as the adventuress. Her love for Jack, as Mr. Bartram, her accomplice. They score a victory.

ACT III.—The Farmer's Daughter asserts her rights. A mother's love. A child's devotion.

ACT IV.—Poverty Hollow. Poor little Nellie. Mother Stark beats her and makes her beg. Her maniac father. Lizzie repents. She would repair the wrong she has done. "Mother, your teaching has made me what I am." "Spare me! Mercy! Mercy! I come to save you!" Thrilling tableau.

ACT V.—Little Nellie's prayer. Happy denouement.

Great Inventory Sale.

Before taking stock we offer the following reductions in our entire line:

Dry Goods.	Clothing.
36 in. unbleached cotton, former price 6 and 8c.	Men's Clay Worsteds Suits, \$ 5.68 (worth \$10.00.)
Very heavy Cotton, for. price 8 to 10c.	Men's Black Cheviot Suits, 4.25 (worth \$9.00.)
Heavy bleached Cotton, regular price 8c, for	Men's Corduroy Pants, sold everywhere for \$2.00, 1.29
Best Bleached Cotton.	Men's plaid all-wool Pants, former price \$1.50, 98c
White Outing Flannel, worth 5c, only	Men's fine \$2.50 Pants, very heavy, reduced to, 1.49
36 in. Percales, worth 22c.	Men's Camel Hair Shirts and Drawers, per suit, 90c
Best Indigo Blue Prints, 44c	Better quality camel hair suits, 1.23
Best Light Prints made, 31c	Boys' Knee Pants, upw. from 15c
Plaid Dress Goods, yard wide, worth 12c,	Boys all wool Knee Pts. Suits 87c
Apron Gingham, reduced from 5c to	Men's Overalls, 35c
Apron Gingham, reduced from 8c to	Shoes! Shoes!
Dress Gingham, per yard, 3 to 8c	Ladies' oil grain Shoes, former price \$1.50, for 85c
Heavy Bed Ticking, per yard, 5c	Ladies' Fine Dress Shoes, 90c, and 1.25, they all go for 79c
Heavy Quilts, full size, (sold everywhere for 75c) 48c	Ladies' Shoes, former price \$1.75, only 1.15
Best Quilt made, only 75c	Ladies' \$4.00 and \$3.00 Shoes also reduced in price.
Gray or white Blankets, pair, 43c	Children's \$1.25 and \$1.50 oil grained shoes reduced to 85c
Ladies' Outing Flannel Wrappers, worth \$1.25 to \$1.50, 98c	Men's Fine Dress Shoes, Cong. or lace, former price \$1.75, 1.15
Ladies' Skirt Patterns, all wool reduced to 75c	Men's Fine Dress Shoes, former price \$2.00, only 1.29
Ladies' and Children's Furnishing Goods.	Men's Fine Calf Shoes, former price \$3.00, for 2.00
Children's all wool Hose, 10c	Men's Fine Kangaroo Shoes, former price \$4.00, 2.99
Ladies' " " 12c	Window Shades, 8c
Ladies' best Cashmere Hose, 20c, two pair for 35c	Ladies' Lace Edge Hd'rs. 5c
Ladies' Corsets, upw. from 23c	Boys' Mitts 10c
Ladies' Ribbed Vests and Drawers, per piece 21c	Muffs 25c
Ladies' all wool Vests and Pants, per suit 75c	
Child's fleeced lined combination suits, 50c	

A special invitation is extended to all to call and examine our 5 and 10 counters and Tinware. It will save you \$ \$.

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT SALE.

R. JOSEPH, Grayling, Mich.

his payment of the \$10,000, and his execution of the deed to the hotel. Please write us in detail your proposals for carrying through the settlement.

Very truly

G. CHEWYND STAPYLTON, President.

LEESBURG, Fla., Jan. 7, '98.

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ACT V.—Little Nellie's prayer. Happy denouement.

General Admission to all parts of the house 25 cents.

Reserved seats can be obtained, without extra charge, at the usual place.

BUY

YOUR

DRY GOODS,

GROCERIES,

HARDWARE,

AND

HAY,

OATS

& FEED,

==AT==

OUR STORE.

We guarantee satisfaction and

defy Competition.

Salling, Hanson &

Company,

Grayling, - Michigan.

NEW MAGAZINES.

Our NEW BOOKS, MAGAZINES and STORY PAPERS, for January, are now here. Call and see them.

J. W. SORENSON, - Grayling, Mich.

Great Inventory Sale!

Every article greatly reduced during this month. Don't miss it! There is Dollars in your Pocket by buying of us.

R. MEYERS.

The Corner Store. GRAYLING, MICH

Do You Want Satisfaction?

THE DETROIT JOURNAL

SEMI-WEEKLY.

is the most satisfactory and popular twice-a-week newspaper published in Michigan.

The Detroit Journal, Semi-Weekly, is distinctively a Michigan newspaper devoted to the state in all its various interests and is the best, cheapest, and largest newspaper published in Michigan.

MORE PEOPLE READ The Detroit Journal, Semi-Weekly, in Michigan, than any similar newspaper published. Here are a few reasons:

The Market Reports are the very best.

The Latest News is in every issue.

The Editorials acknowledged the choicest.

The Journal Cartoons have a national reputation.

The Journal's Stories are a pleasure to young and old.

There are Carefully Edited Departments for all kinds of Readers.

The Detroit Journal, Semi-Weekly,

5 PAGES, 64 COLUMNS, 104 EDITIONS.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

The BEST and CHEAPEST NEWSPAPER published for the money.

IF NOT A READER SUBSCRIBE AT ONCE.

(Write your name and address on a postal card, address to J. C. Scott, Mgr. Detroit Journal, Semi-Weekly, for free sample copy.)

SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER.

The Semi-Weekly Journal and Crawford County

Avalanche, only \$1.55 per year, in advance.

The Avalanche.

J. C. HANSON, LOCAL EDITOR.
THURSDAY, JAN. 20, 1897.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Unclaimed Letters—B. E. Crapo, O. E. Elliott, S. A. Robinson.

O. Palmer offers the best line of sleighs ever sold in the state.

TO RENT—Four room cottage in good condition. Enquire at this office.

Buy a Garland Stove of S. H. & Co., and keep warm.

W. H. Sherman, of Maple Forest township, was in town Tuesday.

Dolls and Toys of all descriptions, at Fournier's Drug Store.

Mrs. R. Hanson returned from Alma, last Friday.

Pure Maple Syrup for your Pancakes, at Claggett's.

Order the Delineator of S. H. & Co.

J. K. Wright, was in West Branch, last week, on legal business.

Claggett's Golden Sunrise Tea can't be beat. Only 25 cents. Try it.

W. S. Chalker was in South Branch township, on business, Friday of last week.

Fifteen bars of Lion Soap for 25 cents, at Claggett's.

The Aurora claims Alpena has more wireless cars than any town of her size in the state.

Bring your Wheat and Rye to S. H. & Co.

Dr. S. N. Insley made a flying trip to the south part of the state, Saturday night.

S. S. Claggett offers \$5,000 reward for any imprints found in his Buckwheat Flour. Try it.

John London came in from the camp last Wednesday, and made us a call.

Regular meeting of Crawford Tent No. 192 K. O. T. M., Saturday evening, the 22nd.

Order Butterick's Patterns of S. H. & Co.

Regular meeting of Marvin W. R. C., Saturday afternoon, the 22nd, at the usual hour.

JA-VO Blend is the name of Claggett's 25 cent Coffee. Best on earth for the money.

Rev. Woodhams, presiding elder, was in town Monday, and held services in the church in the evening.

J. M. Francis, of Atlanta, was in town Monday, and made us a fraternal call.

Ladies, call at S. H. & Co's store and get a Metropolitan Fashion Sheet free.

Our Center Plains correspondence is crowded out this week, but is good enough to appear later.

Our stock of perfumes is made up of the choicest foreign and American odors on the market.

FOURNIER'S DRUG STORE.

H. Feldhauser, Treasurer of Blaine township, was in town last Saturday, next. He reports collection of taxes slow.

Myron Dyer, of Grove township, was in town last Saturday. He had the misfortune to lose one of his horses, which breaks up his team.

Miss Eva Bower has gone to Grayling to remain until spring, being employed in the family of a Mrs. Lane. —Osego Co. Herald.

S. H. & Co. are buying Wheat and Rye, and paying highest market price for it.

Regular meeting of Marvin Post, No. 210, Grand Army of the Republic, next Saturday evening, the 22nd, at the usual hour.

Hugo Schreiber, of Grove township, was in town Monday. He is lumbering, in a small way, this winter.

We understand that another criminal complaint has been made, and warrant issued for the arrest of John Staley.

E. H. Denn, of Frederic, was in town yesterday. He reports ex-serviceman Charles W. Barber in a very critical condition.

J. K. Merz and R. P. Forbes represented Grayling Chapter and Grayling Blue Lodge in the Grand Lodges of these bodies at Grand Rapids, the beginning of the week.

A. M. C. brakeman lost the end of his finger, Monday morning, by the dropping of a draw bar. A sore job, but lucky that the hand was not caught.

The Michelson & Hanson Lumber Co. hauled a load of logs one day last week, which sealed 9,145 feet. Pretty good for a starter. —Atlanta Tribune.

Will Goinick went to Beaver Lake, Tuesday, to tear down a house which he had purchased, and which he will erect on his farm in Center Plains township. —Nor. News.

H. Zehres, was coming home from Frederic, with his wife, Monday evening, and at a sudden turn in the road the cutter upset throwing both out and fracturing his left arm.

All subscribers to the AVALANCHE can secure the "Michigan Farmer" for one year, on the payment of 55 cents in addition to the subscription price of the AVALANCHE.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. Church will meet at the residence of Mrs. Taylor, to-morrow (Friday) afternoon. Lunch will be served in the evening.

Claggett's new line of Canned Goods consists of Evergreen, Ruby, Lily of the Valley Sugar Cane, Ruby Succotash, Eureka and Favorite Peas, Tip Top, Roast Beef and Ruby Tomatoes. Try 'em.

H. W. Mansir, the optician and refractician, will be here on Monday the 24th inst. to remain one week. Any one needing his service should leave word with Andrew Peterson.

Albert Kraus has no cheap store Tin Ware, but sells good Tin Ware cheap. Call and be convinced.

H. C. Bauman and wife came down from Lewiston, Saturday, for a short visit at the old home. They will move here as soon as the Staley house can be refitted for their residence.

Marius Hanson will soon shake the dust of Grayling from his feet and locate in Toledo, for business. He will be greatly missed by our young people, and all will regret his going, but wish him unlimited success.

H. A. Bauman will make Grayling his future home and field of work, after the first of next month. Lewiston will thus lose one of her first citizens. It is not yet decided who will take his place in the M. & H. L. Co.—Lewiston Journal.

J. Dittmer has discontinued the restaurant business here and removed to Grayling, where he will continue in the same line. His business relations here have been very honorable, and he leaves many friends in this place. —Standish Ind.

W. O. Braden got a severe tumble on the icy pavement at Fournier's corner, last Saturday, recollecting a bad sprain of his ankle, so that he will resort to crutches, when the pain subsides so he will want to move. His averdupois is too great for athletes.

Chas. C. Blackman, a former resident of Beaver Creek, and at that time a minor, under the guardianship of T. Hastings, was in town this week, looking after the collection of certain money, claimed to be due from Mr. Hastings, from his bondsmen.

Gold Medal Flour is the best in the market. Buy a barrel of S. H. & Co., or call for a sample package.

Last week Tuesday evening, the Grayling Social Club gave a farewell party in honor of Jas. W. Hartwick. Cards, dancing and social amusement, followed by an elegant supper, filled the evening. Miss Dunlap won the ladies' prize and J. Donovan the gentlemen's.

Comrade A. L. Pond was the last victim of the G. A. R. and W. R. C. for a surprise. Last Saturday was the anniversary of his birth, and in the evening his house was filled with friends, who had a most enjoyable time. Refreshments were served, and the comrade was presented with a G. A. R. pin in remembrance of his 57th birthday.

If every man in the community will pay his little debts, it will do more to restore confidence and bring prosperity than all the hard money or free silver speeches that will be made in a year. Large debts can be put in commercial paper that can be used as security in business and insure no one, but a lot of small items that aggregate a large sum are ruinous to any small dealer. Pay your small debts.

The AVALANCHE is pleased to hear that our townsman and comrade, H. Mansir, is gaining an enviable reputation as an optician and refractician where ever he goes. We call your attention to his notice in this issue, of his visit here, next week, and any one having defective vision, will make no mistake in consulting him. All calls left with Andrew Peterson will receive prompt attention.

With the beginning of the year, as we had given due notice, we resumed the conduct of the AVALANCHE on business principles. We required pay or adjustment of long past due accounts, in default of which delinquents were cut from the list, until payment was made. A few of our old friends are much offended at our position, but a large majority have responded friendly, and acknowledge that we ought to have our due. The advertised subscription price of the AVALANCHE is \$1.00 a year IN ADVANCE, therefore do not ask us to wait three or four years for the dollar.

Marius Hanson will be in the wholesale lumber business with D. Trotter, in Toledo, in March.

That we will soon have a reliable bank is an assured fact. The details are not sufficiently matured, to know just when it will be opened, but will be given as soon as known.

M. J. Connors, of Osego, was in town Monday, hard at work with Mr. Patterson, in the interest of certain individual creditors of the defunct bank, who seem desirous to protect themselves, regardless of other creditors. We believe it only right that all should be willing to work together for mutual benefit.

Three sleigh loads containing the members of the Gaylord W. R. C., and a few close friends, drove out to the Covert homestead, five miles east of town, last night, and surprised uncle John and his household. Of course a pleasant time was enjoyed, singing the old war songs, and cracking jokes and hickory nuts, and they say Elder Wood and Banker Buck out-ate, out-talked and out-sung them all. —Osego Co. Herald.

Christian Endeavor Notes.

Topic for Christian Endeavor next Sunday evening, the 23d, "Practical application of the Beatitudes," Matthew 5: 1-12.

Mrs. MAWHORTER, Leader.

The latest story from the Klondyke is that a man was caught out in a wind storm. The ground was dry and dusty. When the man got home he coughed up \$73.16 in gold dust. We can sympathize with him. We also frequently are compelled to "cough up" the "dust" on our arrival at home. In fact we are shy on cash at the present writing from that very reason, and if any of our dear subscribers who are in arrears will only come around and divvy up, much will be done to alleviate the present stringency in the financial field. Incidentally they will also receive the thanks of the editor.

Free Pills.

Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action, and are particularly effective in the cure of constipation and sick headache. For Malaria and Liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from every deleterious substance, and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c per box. Sold by L. Fournier, drug-dist.

The ill-considered ranting that is being done over the failure of Congressman Crump to nominate certain veterans to postmasterships is certainly in bad taste. That a few old soldiers, broken by the weight of years' infirmities, should meet in their posts and pass caustic resolutions, is a matter which calls for sympathy and silence, particularly when we reflect that their hasty views are probably not shared by the majority of the soldier element. But newspapers that are supposed to represent public opinion, should not be carried off their feet on such occasions. —Northern Mail.

The Surprise of All.

Mr. James Jones, of the drug firm of Jones & Son, Cowden, Ill., in speaking of Dr. King's New Discovery, says that last winter his wife was attacked with La Grippe, and her case grew so serious, that physicians at Cowden and Pana could do nothing for her. It seemed to develop into heavy consumption. Having Dr. King's New Discovery in the store, and selling lots of it, he took a bottle home, and to the surprise of all she began to get better from the first dose, and a half dozen dollar bottles cured her sound and well. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Cold is guaranteed to do this good work. Try it. Free trial bottles at L. Fournier's drug store.

The February issue of the Delineator is called the Midwinter number and again thoroughly justifies its reputation as a woman's authority in Fashion and Literature. The latest winter styles are elaborately illustrated and accurately described. Dr. Grace Peckham Murray contributes a valuable paper, "The Common Ills of Life." In the "Care of Belongings" are many suggestions which will prove of material interest to housekeepers. "Dona Maria" is a fascinating character study of the Southwest by Eva Wilder Brodhead. In Mrs. Witherspoon's "Tea Table" many timely subjects are interestingly discussed. "The Flower Garden" by Mr. Vick, "Fancy Stitches and Embroideries," by Emma Haywood. Knitting, Lace-Making, etc., add to the attractiveness of the issue. The Delineator is the Women's favorite Magazine, and is issued by the Butterick Publishing Co., 17 West 13th St., N. Y., at the remarkably low rate of \$1.00 for a year's subscription, or 15c per copy.

Good News.

No other medicine in the world was ever given such a test of its curative qualities as Otto's Cure. Thousands of bottles of this great German remedy are distributed FREE OF CHARGE by druggists in this country to those afflicted with Consumption, Asthma, Croup, severe Coughs, Pneumonia and all Throat and Lung Diseases, giving the people proof that Otto's Cure will cure them, and that it is the greatest triumph of medical science. For sale only by L. Fournier. Samples free. Large bottle, 50 cents and 25 cents.

ANOTHER ANNOUNCEMENT! GREAT SLAUGHTER SALE!

—*TO BEGIN ON*

MONDAY, JANUARY 17TH, 1898,

and continue for a limited time.

We must have Money, and to get it

will reduce our STOCK by selling

GOODS at

—*COST.*—

Nothing reserved. Everything goes.

NOW IS YOUR TIME TO BUY

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, HATS,

CAPS, SHOES & CLOTHING.

TERMS. — CASH.

Don't miss this great sale at the store of

S. S. CLAGGETT,

GRAYLING, — MICHIGAN.

Bucklin's Arnica Salve.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by L. Fournier, drug-dist.

The West Branch Knights of Pythias Dramatic Club, will present the Melo-Drama, "Only a Farmer's Daughter," at the Opera House in Grayling, on Thursday evening, Jan. 27th. Admission 25 cents. Seats can be reserved at Fournier's Drug Store. They should receive a warm welcome, and have a large house. Go!

The Golden Secret of Long Life.

Keep the head cool, the feet warm and the bowels open. Bacon's Celery King for the Nerves is a vegetable preparation and acts as a natural laxative, and is the greatest remedy ever discovered for the Cure of Dyspepsia, Liver Complaint, and all Blood, Liver and Kidney Diseases. Call on L. Fournier, sole agent, and get a trial package free. Large sizes 50c and 25c.

"Everywhere," Will Carleton's famous Magazine, comes out for January with all its accustomed vigor and newness of thought and method. It leads out with "The Passing of Brooklyn," a poem in Carleton's swinging characteristic style, in which the City of Churches asks why she should die, and is appropriately answered by old Father Time. The various departments that have proved so popular with the people are fully sustained, and the whole number is crisp and readable. In order to introduce this magazine to the thousands who will be pleased with it the moment they see it, the publishers will continue for a short time to send it four months for ten cents to any one who mentions this paper in the letter accompanying the stamps or coin. Address: "Every Where" Publishing Company, Brooklyn, New York.

Take Notice!

All parties indebted to me are earnestly requested to make remittances as often, and as large as convenient. We need funds.

Yours Respectfully,
Nov. 11, 1897 S. S. CLAGGETT.

Estray Notice.

There came into my enclosure Nov. 25th, 1897, one fourteen months old heifer, red and white, with four white feet, and white spot in forehead. Owner will please come forward, prove property, pay charges, and take her away.

FRED HARRINGTON,
dec16-7w Grayling, Mich.

Probate Notice.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, J. S. County of Crawford.

PROBATE COURT OF SAID COUNTY.

In re: Estate of the estate of Donald McCollum, deceased. The undersigned having been appointed by the Judge of Probate of said county Commissioner on Claims to the matter of said estate of Donald McCollum, and six months from the 4th day of December, 1897, having been allowed by said Judge of Probate to all persons holding claims against said estate in which to present their claims to us for examination and adjustment.

NOTICE is hereby given, that we will meet on Tuesday, the 31st day of January, A. D. 1898, at 10 o'clock, a. m., of each day, at the store of W. T. Lewis, in the village of Frederic, in said county, to receive and examine such claims.

Dated Dec. 27th A. D. 1897.
dec30-— CHAS. F. KELLER, }
W. T. Lewis, } Commissioners.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN, J. S. County of Crawford.

PROBATE COURT OF SAID COUNTY.

In re: Estate of the estate of Donald McCollum, deceased. The undersigned having been appointed by the Judge of Probate of said county Commissioner on Claims to the matter of said estate of Donald McCollum, and six months from the 4th day of December, 1897, having been allowed by said Judge of Probate to all persons holding claims against said estate in which to present their claims to us for examination and adjustment.

NOTICE is hereby given, that we will meet on Tuesday, the 31st day of January, A. D. 1898, at 10 o'clock, a. m., of each day, at the store of W. T. Lewis, in the village of Frederic, in said county, to receive and examine such claims.

Dated Dec. 27th A. D. 1897.
dec30-— CHAS. F. KELLER, }
W. T. Lewis, } Commissioners.

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SPECIAL Cape and Jacket Sale

Commencing SATURDAY, Jan. 15th, we

will offer every Cape and Jacket in the House,

LADIES', MISSES AND CHILDRENS,

—AT—

—*COST, AND LESS THAN COST.*—

We want to close out every garment, as we do

not wish to carry any into another season, so offer

the entire line of well made, perfect fitting, and stylish garments, AT COST, and LESS THAN COST.

If you buy NOW, you SAVE \$\$\$.

JOE ROSENTHAL,

One Price Clothing, Dry Goods, Hat,

CAP AND SHOE HOUSE,

GRAYLING, — MICHIGAN.

DRUGS & MEDICINES. MICHIGAN CENTRAL

(NIAGARA FALLS ROUTE.)

Trains leave Grayling as follows:

GOING NORTH.

8:35 P. M. Mackinaw Express, Daily except Su-

nday, arrives Mackinaw, 7:30 P. M.

9:35 A. M. Marquette Express, Daily, arrives at Mackinaw 7:15 A. M.

1:00 P. M. Way Freight, arrives Mackinaw 7:30 P. M.

12:40 P. M. Mackinaw Accommodation.

GOING SOUTH.

2:15 P. M. Detroit Express, arrives at De-

troit, 5:30 P. M. Detroit 10:00 P. M.

12:05 A. M. New York Express, Daily, arrives Bay City 5:00 A. M. Detroit, 7:50 A. M.

2:50 P. M. Bay City Accommodation, arrives at Bay City 6:45 P. M.

Lewiston Accommodation—Depart 6:30 A. M. at 1:15 P. M.

O. W. RUGGLES,
GEN. PASS. AGENT.

A. W. CAMPFIELD,
Local Ticket Agt. Grayling.

Mortgage Sale.

UNDER the power of sale contained in mortgage, Soren Anderson and Acres Anderson, his wife, are mortgagees, and Standard Savings and Loan Association, of Detroit, Michigan, is the mortgagee. The mortgage bears date February 8th, 1893, was recorded February 8th, 1893, in the office of Register of Deeds for Crawford County, Michigan, in Liber "D" of mortgages, pages 520 and 530. At this date there is due on said mortgage four hundred and thirty-two and 60/100 dollars. The mortgage premises are situated in the village of Grayling, County of Crawford, and State of Michigan, viz: Lot four (4) Block three (3) of Goodale's Addition to Grayling. This land will be sold at the front door of the village of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, on Saturday, March 18th, 1898, at twelve o'clock noon, local time, to satisfy the amount due on said mortgage, cost and expense of said sale, and the attorney fees, provided for in said mortgage and by law.

Dated December 9th, 1897.

STANDARD SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION, Mortgagee.

BARNHART & REXFORD, Attorneys for Mortgagee, dec22-18w

For Sale by

L. FOURNIER,

—DEALER IN—

DRUGS, MEDICINES,

SCHOOL BOOKS,

STATIONERY, &c.,

Grayling, — Michigan.

The Best Hotel in Detroit

Can do no more for you in the way of comfortable beds and good meals than the Franklin House, at 1000 Broadway, New York City. Rates are \$10 to \$20 a day, American plan. Woodward and Jefferson Avenues are only a block away, with cars to all parts of the city. Excellent accommodations for wheelmen.

M. H. JAMES & SON, Proprietors
(Bates and Larned Bldg., Detroit, Mich.)

These are Regular

ALLOPATHIC

REMEDIES which are prepared

on sound principles. Dr. March-

ant's always cure. Have stood

the test of years. Are absolutely

pure. Dose perfectly accurate.

Are scientific. The only reliable

remedy for home use. They are

pleasant to take. The form is

attractive.

No. 4. Cures Scrofula, Pimples, Boils, General Debility, Weakness, Loss of Appetite, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Gout, Pleurisy, Relieves Pain.

No. 16. Cures Rheumatism, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Gout, Pleurisy, Relieves Pain.

No. 19. Cures Fever, Malaria, Mumps, Chills.

No. 22. Cures Debility, Loss of Appetite, Used as a General Tonic.

No. 32. Cures Catarrh, Nucleus, Night Sweats, Slight Fever.

No. 41. Cures Acidities of the Stomach, Heartburn, Bad Breath, Waterbrash.

No. 45. Cures Hay Fever, German Measles and other Eruptions.</

GAINED FORTY-FOUR POUNDS.

Strong appetite for liquor was the beginning of the breaking down of my health. I was also a slave to tea and coffee. I took the gold cure, but was not helped.

This is clipped from the Daily Herald, of Clinton, Iowa. It might well be taken for the subject of a temperance lecture, but that is not our object in publishing it. It is to show how a system, run down by drink and disease, may be restored. We quote further from the same:

"For years I was unable to do any work. I could not sleep nights or rest days on account of continuous pain in my stomach and back. I was unable to digest my food. Headaches and painful urination were frequent, and my heart's action became increased. I left my farm and retired to city life, for I was a confirmed invalid, and the doctor said I would never be well again."

"So after I happened to see a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and since then I have been free from all pain, headache and dyspepsia. I eat heartily and have no appetite for strong drink, and feel twenty years younger."

"My weight has increased 44 pounds. I cannot say too much for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and claim that they have cured me."

JOHN B. COOK.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this sixteenth day of February, 1897.
A. P. BARKER, Notary Public.

To people run down in health from whatever cause—drink or disease—the above interview will be of interest. For any further facts concerning this medicine write to Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

The name and address of the subject of above interview is John B. Cook, of 208 South 31st street, Lyons, Iowa.

He Had Studied Them.
"He says he has no head for figures," "It is true."

"And yet he has spent nearly all his time, this summer on the bathing beach."

"Well, he didn't say he had no eyes for figures."—Chicago Post.

Give the Children a Drink
called Grain-O. It is a delicious, appetizing, nourishing food drink to take the place of coffee. Sold by all grocers and liked by all who have used it because when properly prepared it tastes like the finest coffee, but is free from all its injurious properties. Grain-O aids digestion and strengthens the nerves. It is not a stimulant but a health builder, and children, as well as adults, can drink it with great benefit. Costs about 1/2 as much as coffee. 15c and 25c.

Twenty-two ports of Cuba are open to foreign residence, where Europeans are allowed to own land on which they live.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All Druggists return the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

If the office has no salary attached it is obliged to seek the man.

Eighty-six miles shortest to New Orleans, 109 miles shortest to Florida—Queen and Crescent route from Cincinnati.

Young Womanhood.
Sweet young girls! How often they develop into worn, listless, and hopeless women because mother has not impressed upon them the importance of attending to physical development.

No woman is exempt from physical weakness and periodical pain, and young girls just budding into womanhood should be guided physically as well as morally.

If you know of any young lady who is sick and needs motherly advice, ask her to address Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass., and tell every detail of her symptoms, surroundings and occupations. She will give advice from a source that has no rival in experience of women's ills. Tell her to keep nothing back.

Her story is told to a woman, not to a man. Do not hesitate about stating details that she may not wish to mention, but which are essential to a full understanding of her case, and if she is frank, help is certain to come!

DO YOU COUGH
DON'T DELAY
TAKE
KEMP'S
BALM
THE
BEST
COUGH
CURE

It Cures Croup, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Asthma. A certain cure for Consumption in its early stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. 50c and 25c Per Bottle.

A Profession for \$1.
Ten Weeks Course in TELEGRAPHY
and a Practical Morse Instrument. Suitable for Battery and Short Line Work. Anyone can learn from our practical course.

Two Instruments for practice work, \$1.00. NO. 1. NO. 2. NO. 3. NO. 4. NO. 5. NO. 6. NO. 7. NO. 8. NO. 9. NO. 10. NO. 11. NO. 12. NO. 13. NO. 14. NO. 15. NO. 16. NO. 17. NO. 18. NO. 19. NO. 20. NO. 21. NO. 22. NO. 23. NO. 24. NO. 25. NO. 26. NO. 27. NO. 28. NO. 29. NO. 30. NO. 31. NO. 32. NO. 33. NO. 34. NO. 35. NO. 36. NO. 37. NO. 38. NO. 39. NO. 40. NO. 41. NO. 42. NO. 43. NO. 44. NO. 45. NO. 46. NO. 47. NO. 48. NO. 49. NO. 50. NO. 51. NO. 52. NO. 53. NO. 54. NO. 55. NO. 56. NO. 57. NO. 58. NO. 59. NO. 60. NO. 61. NO. 62. NO. 63. NO. 64. NO. 65. NO. 66. NO. 67. NO. 68. NO. 69. NO. 70. NO. 71. NO. 72. NO. 73. NO. 74. NO. 75. NO. 76. NO. 77. NO. 78. NO. 79. NO. 80. NO. 81. NO. 82. NO. 83. NO. 84. NO. 85. NO. 86. NO. 87. NO. 88. NO. 89. NO. 90. NO. 91. NO. 92. NO. 93. NO. 94. NO. 95. NO. 96. NO. 97. NO. 98. NO. 99. NO. 100. NO. 101. NO. 102. NO. 103. NO. 104. NO. 105. NO. 106. NO. 107. NO. 108. NO. 109. NO. 110. NO. 111. NO. 112. NO. 113. NO. 114. NO. 115. NO. 116. NO. 117. NO. 118. 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THE ROADSIDE AEOLIAN.

Layton Brewer in the Criterion.
When winds stream over the ragged knoll
The highway lies along
The wires strung from pole to pole
Give tongue to a voice of song.

A glint with beams of the morning sun,
They carry a blitheful air,
Humming a burden that seems to run:
"Good news is the word we bear."
This joyous one:
"Good news we bear."

They swing and swing at the breeze's will,
While the heavens smile above
To hear the measure they gaily thrill:
"We're speeding a line of love;
With scale and trill:
"A line of love."

A cloud and a shadow go sailing by:
To the breeze's falling breath
In sinking cadence the wires sigh:
"Respect for a tale of death!"
More softly still:
"A tale of death."

O the songs are many the wires sing
When the roving wind is sent
To play of gladness or suffering
On its mighty instrument.

KATHIE'S ADVENTURE.

"Girls, I'm going into the country for two weeks; they've got it all planned. Two weeks—just think of it—and I never saw the country."

An eager crowd gathered around the little girl, who had rushed into the playground of the Orphans' Home, her cheeks bright and her eyes shining with excitement.

"Tell us about it, Kathie?"

"Oh, oh! I wonder if some of the rest of us won't get a chance pretty soon."

"When are you going, Kathie?"

"This afternoon. The lady's name is Mrs. Winslow, and she lives on a farm. I was in the hall when she came in and saw me, and she sent for me afterwards and asked me if I would like to go, and I thought it would be so lovely; but no—it makes me feel mean to go when the rest of you want to go so much and can't."

The child's face had clouded, and she looked around with troubled eyes. But one of the little group around her spoke up bravely.

"Of course it's all right for you to go when they ask you—the rest of us would go quick enough, and probably some of us will by and by."

"Kathie, the matron wants you to get your things ready," called a voice at the door, and Kathie hurried out, joy and sorrow chasing each other over her sensitive face.

She had always lived in the city—this little girl of 12—and in a crowded part of it at that; while many times since her father's death, three years before, she had been without sufficient food, and for the last year she had been motherless. But the Orphans' Home had taken her in and had cared for her; and she was glad of the refuge, although, as young as she was, she thought of the future and longed for a home which she would not be obliged to leave—a home to which she would have a right other than as an object of charity; for Kathie was proud-spirited, and her heart ached for love.

When Mrs. Winslow came at about 3 o'clock she found her little charge ready and waiting in the hall with the traveling bag beside her, which she had carefully packed according to the direction of the matron. Her cheeks were flushed and her eyes were bright with pleasant anticipation as she shyly returned Mrs. Winslow's greeting and followed her in the waiting cab.

Mrs. Winslow watched her expressive face with her sympathetic pleasure and talked to her just enough to make her feel at ease without interfering with her enjoyment of the novel scenes. It was 5:30 o'clock when the train pulled into a little station, and they found Mr. Winslow waiting for them with a horse and carriage.

The drive was half a mile over a winding road, with rolling fields on either side and green grass and trees, the houses just close enough together for companionship, was such a delight that the little girl sat as though spell-bound, while her new friends looked into each other's eyes across the top of her head and smiled in sympathy.

"So you're not disappointed, eh, my child?" asked Mr. Winslow.

She looked up quickly into his kind face.

"Disappointed," she repeated, with a little catching of her breath that said more than words. "I didn't think the country could be so pretty."

Mr. Winslow laughed, almost as pleased as she was herself.

"Well, how does this suit you?" he asked as they turned into a pretty driveway and approached a comfortable white house with a deep veranda, surrounded by large trees dotted over a velvet lawn, while from the farther side a profusion of brilliant flowers peeped at them through the tree trunks and bending branches.

"Is this where we're going?" asked Kathie in a half whisper of delight.

"This is where we're going," answered Mr. Winslow, gayly. Then they caught sight of an old lady and a tiny child coming around the father corner of the veranda.

"Hello, Grace!" cried Mr. Winslow, as the child came running eagerly to meet them, laughing and holding out both hands full of flowers.

Mr. Winslow caught her in his arms and the young one.

"This is the daughter of the house," he said, holding her up. "Grace, this is a little girl come to see you and play with you."

Grace made friends readily and walked up to the house, holding her mamma by one hand and Kathie by the other. Then Kathie learned that the old lady was Mrs. Winslow's mother, and when the latter bent and kissed her and told her she was welcome she thought there was nothing in the world so dear as old ladies.

They walked all around the house before going in, visiting the flower garden, peeping into the barn at the rear and looking out across the rolling fields to the river not far away, whose waters were shining like silver now in the bright sunlight.

And then they went in to get ready for supper.

How good the supper tasted. The fresh air and the perfume of the flowers came in through the open windows of the pleasant dining room, and the faces around the table were healthy and happy; while the snowy bread and delicious new-made butter, with their slices of boiled ham and fresh new milk just out of the ice-box, the delicate frosted cakes and above all the strawberries, picked less than an hour before and buried in cream, formed a feast that even the daughter of a millionaire might have called perfect, and this little orphan girl, who had known much more fasting than feasting, almost thought it a table from fairyland.

After supper Mrs. Winslow allowed her to brush the crumbs from the snowy cloth and wipe the pretty china, and when this was done, they all went out together and she made the acquaintance of the cows and pigs and poultry and the gentle, kind-eyed horses, after which she romped with Grace under the trees, while the older members of the family sat upon the veranda and looked on, smiling at them.

"Perhaps you've found just the kind of girl you've been waiting, Jennie," asked Mrs. Winslow, the mother of a millionaire, as she looked at Kathie, who seemed careful and gentle, and Grace took to her, you can see."

"Yes," said Mrs. Winslow. "Grace evidently likes her. How glad I would be if I knew I could trust her and be wanted to stay with us right along."

Kathie was delighted with her little chamber. Mrs. Winslow's mother had gone up with her.

"Your room is right next to mine, dear," she said. "I know you'll like it, and I want to show it to you."

And when she had seen how pleased the little girl was with it she kissed her and said good night and left her to look around and enjoy it to her heart's content. It was all blue and white and had two large windows looking out upon the green grass and tall trees and out across the fields to the river. There were books and a chest of drawers and a table and everything that a child could wish for comfort was there.

Next day was like a dream of fairyland to the little orphan. She helped with the dishes and amused the baby, and they all went for a drive in the afternoon—that is, the two ladies, Grace and Kathie—and everything seemed too beautiful to be real; several times Kathie pinched her arm to see if she were awake.

"She seems like one of the family already," said Mrs. Winslow's mother that evening when the children were playing together. "I don't know when I have taken to a child as I do to her."

"She seems to take to you as much," said Mrs. Winslow, smiling. "But, then, I don't know who could help it."

"Oh, you're partial, of course," she said. "But I really believe Kathie is just the girl you want, and it would make such a good home for her. You're abundantly able to have her, too."

Just then the children came running in.

"Where would you rather live, Kathie—in the city or in the country?" asked Mrs. Winslow.

"A wondering look came into the child's face, as if she had never thought there could be two opinions upon the subject.

"The answer, of course," she answered, simply, "and there was so much of longing and pathos in her voice that both ladies turned their eyes away."

At the supper table next evening Mr. Winslow asked:

"Did you read about the hyena that got away in Chicago the other day?"

"No. Where did it get away from?" asked Mrs. Winslow hurriedly.

"From Lincoln Park," was the answer.

"What a dear," cried Mrs. Winslow, "what if it should come out here! I shan't dare let Grace play out at all."

"Oh, I guess it isn't as bad as that," said Mr. Winslow, laughing. "It would be caught or shot before it got so far as this."

"But it might not be," persisted the wife.

"There would hardly be much danger in the day time anyway," said Mr. Winslow. "A hyena is a cowardly beast you know. It might take some of the poultry. Why, Kathie, child, how big your eyes are! I shouldn't have mentioned it. But there isn't any danger—you may sleep just as snug as if Mr. Hyena was back in his cage, as perhaps he is now."

But Kathie was a sensitive child, and all night long she dreamed of hyenas and other wild beasts, and of trying to save Grace from them, always finding when she started to run with her little charge in her arms that she could barely crawl along, while her pursuers were just upon her. She came down in the morning rather pale, but she said nothing about her dreams or her fears, and no one spoke of the hyena.

Perhaps Mrs. Winslow could not get it entirely out of her mind, for she told Kathie to play out in the back yard with Grace, and not go far away from the house.

"Mr. Winslow is in the barn," she said, "and I would rather have you out there."

About half way between the house and the barn was an old shed which Mr. Winslow intended to tear down. All at once, in the midst of their play, Grace started for this shed running as fast as her little fat legs would carry her, and Kathie started after her, calling to her, but the little rogue, only screamed with pleasure and ran the faster.

Since hearing of the hyena Kathie had a vague fear of everything which she thought might possibly give a hiding place for a wild beast, and underneath this old shed was surely room enough, while it was dark there and had suddenly grown terrible.

But Baby Grace had no such fears. She ran up to it, laughing, and bent her chubby form to peer under it.

Kathie came up to her and caught her, bending, too, with a sort of fascination caused by her fear, and then for a horrible moment she stared at both eyes would start from her head.

There, sure enough, were two great flaming orbs, like two jewels, staring at her, and she heard a low growl. But she could not move.

The baby pointed at those shining eyes and laughed; then Kathie's strength seemed to come back. She seized the struggling child in her arms and ran toward the house with her in spite of her kicks and screams, and

all the time it seemed as if it had in her dreams, and she expected to hear the rush of a flying form just behind her. But she struggled on, and in a moment Mrs. Winslow came running out to ask what it was all about.

Kathie's white face told her fright. "What is it? What is it, Kathie?" cried Mrs. Winslow, taking the baby in her own arms.

"The hyena—under the shed!" gasped Kathie.

Mrs. Winslow gave a little scream, which was echoed by her mother, as she held the screen door open and pulled them all in.

At that moment there was a rush and a scurry from the shed, upon which all eyes were fixed. A flying patch of maltese and another larger one of black and white cut through the air, barely touching the ground—the maltese patch turned, doubled into a furious ball, struck the black and white patch like a flash of lightning, there were a series of sharp yells, and the black and white patch was running the other way with its tail between its legs. Mr. Winslow and her mother looked at each other. Then they laughed.

"Mr. Brown's dog again," said Mrs. Winslow. "I guess he'll stay away now."

She opened the door.

"Come here, Tom," she cried. "You're a brave, old fellow, but between you and Tige you've given us quite a fright."

Tom looked around two or three times, then walked leisurely up to the house, came in and allowed himself to be petted. But he did not have all the honors. Mrs. Winslow and her mother called her a brave little girl until she was utterly bewildered, for she had never thought it was a brave thing not to leave the baby in the presence of a supposed danger.

That night when she had gone to bed Mrs. Winslow said:

"That settles it. I shall keep Kathie with me as long as she wants to stay; so perhaps, after all, our scare had a purpose."

"I was sure you wouldn't let her go," said her mother.

A few days later the papers stated that the hyena had been shot, and Kathie breathed freely once more. But when they told her she could stay with them just as long as she wished—could be one of the family, it took several pretty hard pinches to make her sure that she was awake. —Chicago Record.

NEW OCCUPATION FOR WOMEN.

The Breeding of Angora Cats Presents Financial Possibilities.

Forrest Crissey, in discussing "The Breeding of Angora Cats as a Vocation," in the Woman's Home Companion, says:

"It is the general opinion of these cat fanciers that the culture of Angoras is an occupation which any young woman with a fondness for pets and a little of the commercial instinct may pursue with profit as well as pleasure. It is an occupation in which success does not depend upon a special talent. One cannot succeed in literature, music, the arts, or in teaching, without a course of training and an inborn adaptability, but the rearing of cats calls for no mental preparation, or for any rare power in any particular direction. Capital, however, is necessary. Angora cats bring a good price, and it will cost something to establish a kennel. The amount will depend upon the magnitude of the business. One may expend a hundred dollars and secure, perhaps, three choice thoroughbred adults, or at an outlay of twenty-five dollars, or thereabouts, one may purchase a male and a female kitten and rear them herself. The fitting up of a suitable kennel need not cost much, but there are important points in the construction and care of the kennel which should not be neglected, and which any owner of Angora cats is always ready to explain. The essentials for a successful Angora kennel are not elaborate. Most important is an ample outdoor runway, made of woven wire, with a roof of the same material. This should connect with a cosy house or dormitory. Both apartments should be provided with elevated shelves, as the cats like to sleep as far from the ground as possible. They also enjoy the exercise of jumping up and down from their elevated perches. Fresh grass and pure milk are absolute necessities. The Angora has been a much slandered animal. The general public believes it to be delicate in physique and surly and treacherous in disposition. This is as far from the truth as is possible. They are almost uniformly amiable and affectionate in disposition, and possess hardy and vigorous constitutions. They are full of interesting eccentricities, however."

Pumping Oil From the Sea.

The only spot in the world where oil is pumped from the sea is on the Pacific coast below Santa Barbara, California. The oil-bearing strata reaches out into the ocean, and the drill scaffolding, looking like windmills without the wheels, crept nearer and nearer the edge until finally many of them were planted in the water. The work was started at extremely low tide and finally the tall scaffolding appeared 20 or 30 feet from the shore, seemingly rising out of the sea. These wells at low tide are completely surrounded, the men working on platforms of various heights, which they ascend when working as the sea rises. The structures that are built in the sea have not yet experienced a strong southwester, and it is assumed by some that there will be a fall in oil when a heavy sea begins to break against the scaffolding. The drill is worked in the water by an engine on the beach, the fuel being the oil pumped up, this engine working several wells. At present the most daring well scaffold stands in six feet of water at high tide, and there is a rumor that others will be pushed out into the shallow water. Undoubtedly the entire coast in this vicinity overlies an oil-producing stratum. Off what is known as Moore's wharf, half a mile out, oil rises to the surface in several places.

Banana Culture.

The banana is the most prolific of fruits. The produce of one here planted with bananas will support 25 times as many people as the produce of one acre planted with wheat.

FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS.

HOLIDAYS.

"To-morrow is a holiday!"

Cries John with shouts of laughter; And all the other children shout As they come trooping after.

"What will you do?" inquires mamma.

"What kind of celebration Will best express your sentiments On such a grand occasion?"

"Why, we shall do, just what it says. The name, you know, that's given!" Mamma looked puzzled, and the boy, To desperation driven By her obtuseness, sternly cries, "Well! I would give a dollar! I s'posed you knew that hollerdays Were made for boys to holler."

—[Kate Upson Clarke.]

A DEAD-LEAF OBSERVATION.

Next time you are out in the park look closely at the dead leaves blowing about on the ground. You will find that most of them have their lower sides uppermost. Can you think of a reason for this?

When a leaf is mature and almost ready to fall it curls up just a little at the edges. When it falls, the first breeze catches these margins and turns the leaf lower side uppermost and there it remains, because in this position the wind has less opportunity to disturb it.

A TINY WELLS-DIGGER.

The mole is one of the thirstiest of animals. It never burrows at any great distance from water, and at times of drought when the supply of the needful element is diminished or cut off, the "little gentleman in the velvet coat" contracts the scarcity by digging wells until it comes to a depth at which water may be obtained.

WHERE "OLD PUT" WAS TIED.

The stump of the tree to which Israel Putnam was once tied in the French and Indian war is still standing in the little village of Crown Point, a town in the upper part of New York. It was in the course of a skirmish near Wood creek, at the time of the French invasion in August, 1758, that he was captured by the Indians and tied to this tree. While the flames were searing his flesh he was saved by Captain Molang, a French officer, who rushed through the crowd, scattered the firebrands, cuffed and upbraided the Indians and released their victim. Putnam was taken to Montreal and presently freed by exchange.

SMALLEST BOOK IN THE WORLD.

The smallest book in the world is not much larger than a man's thumbnail. It was made in Italy by a firm of Padua publishers, the Salpini Brothers. It is four-tenths of an inch high and about a quarter of an inch wide. The volume contains 208 pages, each having nine lines and from 95 to 100 letters. The text is an abbreviated letter, written by the famous inventor of the pendulum clock to Mme. Christine, of Lorraine, in the year 1615. The next smallest book is issued by the same firm. It is an edition of Dante's Divine Comedy, being a little less than an inch wide, with type so small that it takes a microscope to read the letters.

A QUEER MONSTER.

While traveling at one time in the west the writer's attention was arrested by a remarkable object. In outline it resembled an immense serpent, and it writhed and twisted as it flashed along in the sunlight. Since then it has been seen covered with a hard, iridescent shell, and it appeared almost or quite dormant. It is much more active some times than at others, and when the mood is on it it will run and leap and rise and fall with a tremendous roar. The people said that, while they could not tame it, they succeeded in making it work, and it was serviceable in carrying heavy objects, which, however, differing from most beasts of burden, it would only carry on its bosom. It loves the valleys and refuses to be driven up a hill. Wherever it travels it always goes in its bed, and those familiar with its habits say that if by chance it leaves its bed disaster is sure to follow. It has great commercial value and its shell is sold in many places.

But the strangest part is yet to be said. It is a fact unparalleled in nature that this wonderful creature has arms but no legs, and its head is at one end of its body and its mouth at the other.

And this queer monster is called a river.

MRS. BUTTERFLY.

Mother Butterfly was hunting about for a green crane in which to lay her baby. The baby was still asleep curled up in the tiniest of tiny egg shells. At last Mother Butterfly alighted upon a tender green birch leaf that was swaying gently in the summer breeze.

"This will be a beautiful cradle," she said, "for the breezes will rock my baby when he is sleepy and the leaf is so young and tender it is just the food he will need."

So Mother Butterfly laid the tiny, tiny egg on the very tip of the young birch leaf and then she flew away, knowing that Mother Nature would take care of her baby.

Several days passed and then a tiny baby caterpillar crawled out of the little egg. The very first thing he did was to eat every bit of his egg shell.

Mother Nature told him that he must not leave any of it lying about lest some bigger creature who likes to eat baby caterpillars should see the shell and know that he was there.

The egg shell was not enough to satisfy his hunger, however, and he soon began nibbling the edges of the green leaf. It tasted very good, and so he nibbled and nibbled, and finally he had eaten away the tip of the leaf on both sides of the long rib that runs down the middle—the back bone of the leaf. Little caterpillar was careful to leave that for Mother Nature had told him that the mid-rib of the leaf would be the very nicest place for him to lie upon when he wanted to rest after his dinner. He was just about the same color and no one would be likely to see him there.

The birch leaf was a very pleasant cradle and the baby caterpillar was rocked to sleep every night by the breezes and bathed every morning with the sweet dew. He was a very

hungry baby and spent much of his time nibbling the green leaf, and of course he slept a great deal, too; and grew bigger every day.

I must tell you one funny thing he did. He made a tiny soft ball of bits of leaf and spun silk and he always rolled this ball close to the eaten edge of the leaf and left it there when he went down to the tip of the mid-rib to take his nap. Perhaps he thought that the hungry creatures who wanted to find him would look at the ball instead; perhaps he made it to hide behind when he was eating. Maybe it was just his plaything. All babies like balls.

By and by he had grown so much bigger Mother Nature thought he needed a new nest of clothes, so he crawled out of his first baby dress, and when he had rested a little, what do you think he did? Why, he ate up his old clothes—yes, every bit, just as he had eaten his egg shell.

Before the little caterpillar had grown a great deal bigger the nights began to be chilly and the leaves of the birch tree on which he lived were slowly turning yellow.

"Winter is coming," whispered Mother Nature. "You cannot stay out in this sunshine much longer, little caterpillar. Come, build your house and crawl into it."

So the little caterpillar began to build his winter home. He had been born on the tip of the birch leaf; it had been his cradle and his dinner table, and now he was going to build his house of it.

He carefully ate away until all that was left of the leaf were two small flaps on either side of the mid-rib, near the stem; then the little caterpillar stopped eating and began to spin. He traveled slowly over the flaps of green and pretty soon they were covered with a thick carpet of soft, brown silk. When this was done he carefully drew the flaps together until they met overhead and bound them round and round with soft threads of silk that fastened them firmly to the mid-rib.

Then little caterpillar stood on the porch of his little house and looked into it, and he thought it was so nice and soft and warm he would like to take a nap that minute. The air was getting chilly, too, so he just glanced about at the big world once and then crawled head first into his cozy house, with its silken carpet and hangings, and closed the door behind him.

He heard the breezes whispering outside, but they only made him more sleepy, and he was soon ready for his winter nap. He knew that when the cold winds came they could not get into his snug dwelling, and perhaps the snow would drift up about it, like a soft, woolly blanket and keep him warmer still.

Perhaps through his long winter sleep little caterpillar will dream of the spring time when he can open the door of his little home and creep out on to his sunny porch again. Then Mother Nature will give him another suit of clothes, and before long he will spin himself another silken nest and hide away again but after that he will not be a funny little caterpillar any more.

When he comes out of that second snug cradle and feels the warm sunshine touching him tenderly, he will have two beautiful green wings to lift him from the earth and carry him above the nodding flowers and grasses.

How beautiful it must be for a drowsy little caterpillar to dream of the hour when he can fly!

LAND OF THE VENEDT.

Coriscan Ways of Bothing an Objectionable Neighbor.

An enemy in Corsica has a thousand ingenious little ways by which he can put a spoke in a neighbor's wheel. Why, a mere "accident" in felling a tree may close the road in front of your wagon for hours and make all your early vegetables late for the bi-weekly market. Next, a mysterious hole in your new fence may let a whole flock of sheep into your new clover; or the well may be suddenly "bewitched," with sickly consequences to man and beast. A resolute new proprietor might declare he would "stand no nonsense; no such accidents should occur twice to him," and so forth. But surely prevention is a thousand times better than cure in matters less serious than feuds between country neighbors.

Seventeen years ago a foreign prisoner took up some of the Campodiloro, the best land near Ajaccio. He engaged a Swiss farmer to come with herds and a staff and supply him with milk and butter. Cows' milk is still rare in the island. In those days you might milk straight into the lactometer, but the instrument would not even register zero, though new milk in the Swiss Alps would mark 28. Thus it will be seen how desirable would have been a dairying revolution in Ajaccio. But when everything was in train for the arrival of the Swiss farmer, his family, laborers and cattle, certain Corsican well-wishers of the foreign reformer came to him and said: "Put it to yourself; would you feel happy if the man's hay barns were burned, if his house was pulled down about his ears, if he lost his life?" And the well-wishers were able to convince the foreigner that there was real danger of such acts of violence. He countermanded all his arrangements, and in course of time was thankful to get pretty good milk from the farm of a local magnate whose property is now fairly well managed—Gentleman's Magazine.

Cleanliness and Health.

A charge is made against some dentists that they do not take pains to make their instruments antiseptic after they have drawn or filled a tooth, but merely rinse the forceps or other article employed in the operation, and proceed to make the next patient comfortable. Some dentists even neglect the washing of their hands after extracting a tooth. If these allegations are true we may hope for a sudden and wide reform. Diseases are more easily and generally transferred from one person to another by the mucous membrane than by any other way, and the bacilli of a dozen contagious ills might be grafted on the previously healthy subject by the forceps of the dentist.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The largest lobster that has been seen in New Haven in years weighed 28 pounds and was very old.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The delta of the Danube is about to be drained and resorted for agricultural purposes by the Roumanian Government. Nearly seven hundred and fifty thousand acres of fertile land will thus be made available. The enterprise is the greatest of its kind ever undertaken, and at least five years will be required to carry it to completion.

The condition of labor in England is one of unrest. The general feeling between employees and employers is decidedly unpleasant, and strikes have occurred frequently of late. The sharp competition of Germany, where labor is very cheap, has caused a reduction of wages in many lines of British industry. The German, French and Belgian workingmen laborers several hours a day more than the English workingman and receives less wages. The "pauper labor" of the continent is causing no little trouble in England.

Prince Bismarck's plan to Germanize Prussian Poland by buying up Polish estates and settling Germans on them has proved a failure. The Prussian Chambers nine years ago established a fund of 100,000,000 marks for this purpose. The Polish nobles sold their heavily mortgaged estates to the Government readily, but instead of emigrating, bought with the money other estates in the country from Germans and gathered around them Polish laborers. The only result of the experiments has been to benefit the Polish landowners of Posen.

Over a hundred years ago, it is claimed by the members of the Moser family, Burkhardt Moser bought 410 acres of land in Schuykill County, Pa., which is now said to be worth \$14,000,000. He died a bachelor about seventy years ago, and recently the deeds to the land and other documents were found in an old trunk, with a false bottom. The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company occupies most of the land, and it is claimed, is willing to settle with the heirs, if they can settle existing difficulties between themselves. Nearly one hundred people in Eastern Pennsylvania are interested in the litigation about to begin.

What the fate of Central and South America would long since have been but for the Monroe doctrine and the conviction in Europe that an unshakable resolution was behind it is plainly to be seen in this concerted movement on helpless China. The situation over on this side would have been far more inviting than the situation now is on that. But the western hemisphere, thanks to the United States, which stands at its head in progress and power, has no invaders to meet, with knives drawn, ready to slice it up to suit their purposes. And the effect ought to be to draw the powers of this hemisphere the more closely in bonds of mutual sympathy and benefit.

The tunnel which will pass directly under Pike's peak has been commenced. The starting point of the tunnel is at the foot of the mountains near Colorado City. The tunnel will be six miles south of Cripple Creek, near the town of Sunol. The tunnel will pass directly under the cone of Pike's Peak, at a depth of 7,000 feet, and will be 2,700 feet beneath the town of Victor. By connecting tunnels, over 1,000 miles will be made tributary to the main tunnel. The work is estimated, will require seven years for its completion. The cost is placed at \$18.00 per foot, or \$20,520,000. The money, it is thought, will be to be spent on the tunnel will be recovered from the valuable ore which will be excavated during the work.

The gold of Alaska, on which the attention of mankind is just now fixed with brilliant anticipation, may not, in the end, turn out to be the greatest treasure which that land possesses. The Alaskan forests appear to be among the most valuable in existence. Extending from Cross Sound, a little south of Mount Fairweather, to the Strait of Juan de Fuca, partly in Alaska and partly in British Columbia, lies what Garden and Forest describes as the greatest continuous body of timber of the cone-bearing or pine family in the world, "almost unmarked as yet by the axe, safe from fire, and of easy access." Security from fire, due to the moist climate, is regarded as one of the chief causes of the continued existence of these magnificent forests.

A recent novel exhibit in Milwaukee was a canary bird show for prizes. It was probably the first of its kind in this country. It is doubtful if such an exhibition could be organized elsewhere in the United States. Milwaukee being the canary bird breeding city of the country, and having an association of breeders and trainers composed of Germans. Competition was in the quality of the song, and the judging was an interesting task. Each bird is taken to a small room, the doors being closed, and the judges sitting on different sides of the table upon which the bird is placed. Should the bird fail to sing no prize is awarded. When it does sing, however, there are twelve qualities of song that receive markings, and four faults. The mellowness, spontaneity, range of voice, the warble, absence of abrupt change from one scale to another, and the continuity are points that receive attention. When the bird peeps too much before beginning to sing, when its music is shrill, or if there is a hitch in execution, discounting marks are placed against it.

The Great Salt Lake of Utah, the Galilee of the vanishing Mormon, is seventy miles long and fifty miles wide in its widest part, with a present maximum depth of forty feet, though much of its area does not exceed from twelve to twenty. Fifty years ago, when Mormon first fared thither, it was much deeper, exceeding one hundred feet in places, and its average being much greater than present measurements show. Just now it is two feet lower than has ever been known before, and the local savants conjecture that it is gradually turning into a body of fresh water. The theory is supported by an examination of the waters of numberless springs which used to pour pure brine into the lake, the outflow of many of them being now quite fresh, as if they had exhausted the underground deposits of salt of which they were formerly the solvent and carrying vehicle. Still, of the lake in general, it may be safely asserted that its salt will long outlast that of the doctrines which its pioneer apostle promulgated along its shores, and though it occasionally shows, as at present, a particularly low water mark it is not going to dry up altogether for a long time to come.

Some unpleasant facts in regard to the increase in crime in the United States and some of the causes which have produced it were recently laid before the social science department of the Philadelphia Civic Club by Gen. Isaac J. Wistar. Passing over the statistics, which were not new, General Wistar's views as to the causes of the increase of crime may be briefly summarized. One of these causes, in his opinion, is that the methods of punishment are not deterrent. A prison, General Wistar continued, should be a place of punishment and above all a place where the prisoner cannot be further contaminated. To this end separate confinement he regards as necessary, and he is not shaken in this view by the claim that separate confinement largely increases cases of insanity. There is no more insanity inside a prison than outside, among the same classes, General Wistar maintains, and much of it in the prisons is feigned to furnish greater opportunities for escape. Another cause of the increase of crime, in General Wistar's opinion, is the delay and the uncertainty of punishment. For this criminal jurisprudence is at fault. The appellate courts, he says, appear to devote themselves, not to the trial of the criminal, but to the trial of the judge that convicted him, in the hope that they can prove their astuteness by showing that he committed some error. In some extreme cases new trials have been granted because of misspelled words in the legal documents. One way to reform this, suggested General Wistar, is to deny the right of appeal in criminal cases. This, he claims, would not be a hardship, inasmuch as the criminal has four trials, the first before a magistrate, the second before the grand jury, the third and fourth (a retrial) before the higher criminal court. Other remedies are suggested by the causes that show their need.

GOVERNMENT PAY DAY.

How Department Clerks Are Paid Off in Washington.

"One of the most peculiar things in connection with the department service," remarked a disburser officer, in Washington, "is the almost entire absence of legislation regarding the question of when payments are to be made. The whole matter of paying is left entirely with the head of each department, subject to any rules that he chooses to adopt, and this is governed by custom rather than by direct or expressed law. Thus, in some of the branches of the Treasury Department there are weekly pay days, notably in the redemption division, while in others there are semi-monthly pay days. In most of the branches of the other departments there are semi-monthly pay days, though to the clerks of the headquarters of the army in the War Department, who are paid by an army paymaster, there is but one pay in each month. Congress has been appealed to time and time again to regulate pay days by legislation, but for some unknown reason it has always refused.

"Though there are now, and always have been, advocates of frequent pay days, it is not sure that weekly pay days are the best for department clerks. Getting their money in four parts, one-fourth each week, seriously interferes with them, for, as a rule, all of one week's money is expended by the time the next week comes around, leaving nothing to pay off their boarding-house or rent bills, which come due every month. All through Europe department clerks are paid but once in three months, and it is said they manage to save more money by that method than is saved by those who receive their salary more frequently."

Cannon Without Smoke or Noise.

Col. Humbert, a French army officer, claims that he has invented a cannon the discharge of which can be neither seen nor heard by the enemy. He closes the mouth of the gun automatically after the shot issues, thus suppressing not merely the smoke and flame, but the detonation caused by the sudden rush of air into the barrel. This has also the effect of reducing the recoil. The method proposed is to fix on the muzzle of the gun a metal piece which carries a shutter worked automatically by the escaping fumes in such a manner as to close the mouth of the barrel as soon as the projectile has escaped from it. It is said that when the invention was presented to the French Minister of War it was not taken seriously; but the house of Hotchkiss of gun fame, in France, saw in it such a possibility that they placed themselves at the disposition of the inventor, and organized a series of tests with a gun of 37 millimeters in caliber. The claims made for the device appear to have been, to a great extent, confirmed. A committee on artillery is reported to have found that the flame of the discharge is hardly visible, and the noise much diminished, and while the recoil is yet considerable, it is greatly diminished. A great advantage of the invention is that it can be applied to existing guns at small cost. —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Neal Dow's Libby Prison Speeches.

A man with a specialty is never at a loss for a subject for conversation. When the late General Neal Dow was in Libby Prison, during the civil war, he would stir up his fellow prisoners with patriotic addresses.

In the midst of his eloquence, if any of the guards appeared, he would quickly take up temperance as his theme, much to the delight of his hearers, and the guards would only hear the familiar remark:

"Yes, gentlemen, we must put down the grog shops with a strong hand." —Youth's Companion.

Ducal Education.

The Duke of Argyll lately offered himself as a living proof of the advantages of (desultory) reading. He had never been to school or college, but he had always read everything he could lay his hands on. To this he attributed his success in public speaking, for he "often found he had read what others had not."